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Porthcawl's Big Toddle in aid of Barnado's is still going strong!

ABOVE: Porthcawl's promenade was a sea of colour at the weekend when tiny tots (and grown-ups!) took part in the Barnardo's Big Toddle, raising more than £2,600 for the charity's work in Wales. See more pictures and a full report on page 3. Pictured above are Sarah Crawley, Liz Singer, Celyn Astrauskas and Paula Timms.

People move boulders to help sick dog

A woman has contacted The GEM to thank people who helped after her dog, Remus, began suffering from the heat following a walk at Porthcawl.

The family, from the Torfaen area, were on holiday in Trecco Bay, when Remus collapsed on the road back to the car which was parked some distance away on the other side of some boulders.

Mirren Lowman said: "I want to thank the amazing people who helped us get our dog, an Irish setter, into our car by lifting him using a rug.

"People had also moved boulders so my husband could reverse our car to reach him – and someone fetched water.

"Thank you to everyone for all your kindness and help. What a lovely place Porthcawl is with such caring people.

"Remus has recovered from the heatwave and is well."

POLICE ISSUE APPEAL FOLLOWING BURGLARY

Images showing the men police are keen to identify.

POLICE officers investigating a burglary, which occurred during broad daylight in Bridgend, are appealing for the public's help to identify these suspects.

A spokesperson said: "Six young men forced their way in to an occupied flat in Tairfelin, Wildmill, at around 1.30pm on Sunday, June 18, before helping themselves to a laptop and a PlayStation 4 console and making off in a silver/ grey Vauxhall Corsa.

"The gang were all wearing dark-coloured clothing, and are described as having either Birmingham or Liverpudlian accents. Some may have been carrying weapons.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31

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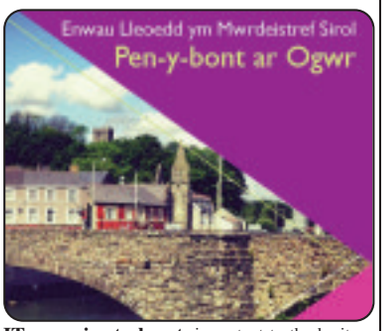
Place names booklet launched at the Urdd Eisteddfod – AND IT'S FREE!



IT was nice to be at the Eisteddfod in Pencoed for a very important event, especially considering that Menter Bro Ogwr was established as a result of the Eisteddfod being held in that same place in 1991.

Following the Eisteddfod at Pencoed in October 1993, a group of volunteers came together to establish Menter Bro Ogwr to secure a voice for the Welsh language in Bridgend county borough.

On May 31, a booklet celebrating the place names of Bridgend county borough was launched at the Eisteddfod in Pencoed. Free copies of the booklet were distributed during the event which had attracted quite an audience to the tent.

Planning and preparations for the Eisteddfod had been ongoing for at least three years and with this in mind, Menter Bro Ogwr was determined to celebrate with a memorable and exciting project for the county and the Welsh language.

Amanda Jaine Evans, chief officer, spoke with Dai Thomas from Cwmni2, who had mentioned a project that was developed in Caerphilly, creating a booklet of local place names. Menter Bro Ogwr felt this would be important to the heritage within the Borough.

The project received funding through the Welsh Government Rural Communities – Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, which is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the Welsh Government.

Welsh primary schools were asked to contribute by getting the children to design squares featuring self portraits or things that reminded them of their area.

Five boxes were decorated with these squares and painted in the school colours. They were exhibited at Menter Bro Ogwr, Menter Rhondda Cynon Taf and Mentrau Iaith Cymru's stall at the Urdd Eisteddfod throughout the week.

Pupils of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd were asked to design pictures that reminded them of their local area and a winner was chosen from the work. These were also on display.

This project was a brilliant opportunity to learn about the reasons behind the place names, learn some new Welsh words and be able to tell the story behind that street name, town, school or village.

A free copy can be obtained at the Welsh book and gift shop, Siop yr Hen Bont, 2 The Old Bridge, Bridgend, CF31 1JH.

MT

Multi-million pound upgrade at Ogmore treatment works

PEN Y BONT wastewater treatment works in Ogmore-by-Sea is set to get a multi-million pound upgrade which will help protect the environment, reduce flooding and improve river and bathing water quality in the area for decades to come.

The major project by not-for-profit company Welsh Water will see over £6 million invested at the site to improve its performance and energy efficiency. Work will see new equipment installed to screen the waste entering the works.

New ultra violet technology will also be used to treat the wastewater more effectively before it is returned to the environment, which will improve the quality of local river and bathing water.

Essential work will also be taking place on and below the access bridge leading to the treatment works.

Welsh Water's capital delivery project manager, Anthony McKenna said: "At Welsh Water we are committed to investing in our wastewater network.

"Our work in Ogmore-by-Sea represents a major investment to improve the waste water network and will deliver an environmental boost to the area."

Due to the challenging nature of working on the bridge, Welsh Water will be carrying out the work in phases. The first phase will take place on the bridge and is expected to start by the middle of July.

The access bridge at Pen y Bont wastewater treatment works.

The work – which will involve resurfacing the bridge to protect it against the weather – is dependent on weather conditions; however it is anticipated that the entire scheme will be complete by the end of summer 2018.

The work will not impact on the wastewater service to local people and businesses.

Mr McKenna added: "We appreciate that this kind of work can cause some inconvenience and we will be liaising closely with local businesses and residents to ensure we carry out the work with the least disruption possible.

"We take communicating with our customers very seriously.

We will be issuing regular updates through the post to customers in the area and we also held a drop-in information session to discuss the work with local residents.

"People can also contact us for further information on 0800 085 3968 or search 'PenyBont' on the 'In Your Area' of our website."

Local MP Alun Cairns, commented: "It is important to consider how significant a difference an investment of this value can make in a rural area such as Ogmore by Sea."

Bridgend PACT

LITCHARD, PENDRE and COITY PACT public meeting will be held at Litchard Mission, Litchard on Thursday, June 29, at 7pm.

BRACKLA PACT public meeting will be held at Brackla Junior School, Brackla Way, on Thursday, June 29 at 6.30pm.

AM asks hospital to enforce smoking ban

CONCERNS expressed by Vale residents over smoking on hospital grounds at Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend have been raised with Abertawe Bro Morgannwg Health Board.

In a letter to interim chief executive Alex Howells, South Wales Central AM Andrew RT Davies has asked what action has been taken to prevent the practice, and whether any further measures will be put in place.

The Health Board operates a smoke-free site policy – which means that neither staff nor patients are able to smoke on hospital grounds.

A number of Vale residents contacted Mr Davies to complain that this was not being enforced, and that they had experienced verbal intimidation from patients when asking them to observe the rules.

He said he hoped action would now be taken to address the issue.

Mr Davies said: "While I appreciate that it can be difficult for the health board to enforce the rules banning smoking on hospital grounds, it is unacceptable that Vale residents should experience verbal intimidation when making a perfectly reasonable request.

"In one case, the resident in question was an elderly lady who was particularly shaken up after receiving considerable abuse merely for asking a patient not to smoke on site.

"I have therefore written to the Health Board asking them what action they have taken to address the problem – and what further things they will do to ensure residents are not put through such experiences in future."

WI members visit the 'other' Hampton Court

MEMBERS of Pen-y-Fai WI who went on last month's trip to the relatively unknown destination of Hampton Court Castle in Herefordshire were rewarded with a wonderful day out, amplified by both the weather and the location.

The estate is privately owned and includes the castle, a maze, walled formal flower and vegetable gardens with several water features, a gift shop, restaurant and extensive parkland.

After a guided tour of the castle, which is also a venue for private functions, most members chose to take lunch on the terrace.

At the June monthly meeting, the speaker for the evening was Sadie Hurley who gave an informative talk on ceramics. After retiring from teaching art for many years, she invested in a potter's wheel and things evolved from there!

Sadie is now involved in workshops and demonstrations at craft fairs. She deals with conventional pottery as well as smaller items that can be made from dough.

Several members tried their hand at decorating these while she continued her talk. The vote of thanks was given by Beverly Harry.

The usual business of the meeting took place and members were reminded of the Glamorgan Federation garden party later this month and next month's trip to Bishopston Flower Festival in the Dylan Thomas Centre in Swansea.

Next month's meeting is on July 17, where the speaker will give a talk on 'Fruitilicious' which should be very interesting!

SHEILA DAVID

Wildfire risk in rural areas

TINDER-dry conditions are putting the countryside at risk of devastating fires, warns NFU Mutual.

The rural insurer is concerned that the current heat wave could lead to grassland and arable crop fires, putting lives at risk and costing millions of pounds in damaged crops and machinery.

"Following a very dry spring, the current heatwave means that huge swathes of land across the whole of the UK are at risk of fire, which puts lives of people and animals at risk as well as destroying valuable crops," said Tim Price, NFU Mutual Rural Affairs Specialist.

"With harvest due to start in a few weeks and the long summer school holidays on the horizon, we are making a plea to countryside dwellers and visitors to take extreme care to avoid starting a fire."

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JULY 6)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
29 Thur	11.12	9.2	23.34	9.1
30 Fri	11.58	8.7		
01 Sat	00.23	8.6	12.54	8.3
02 Sun	01.21	8.2	13.52	8.0
03 Mon	02.24	7.9	14.59	7.8
04 Tues	03.31	7.9	16.09	7.9
05 Wed	04.34	8.1	17.03	8.2
06 Thur	05.25	8.3	17.52	8.5

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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MAN THREW DRUGS INTO PARC PRISON

by AJ SICLUNA

DRUGS worth up to £5,955 plus a number of mobile phones were thrown over a perimeter fence at Parc Prison, Bridgend, Cardiff Crown Court has heard.

They were spotted by a security guard and on the package was a fingerprint and DNA of the man responsible, said prosecutor Ieuan Bennett.

Miles Pace, an 18-year-old general labourer, of Ely, Cardiff, was jailed for eight months after he admitted taking prohibited items into the prison.

Mr Bennett said that in December 2015, Pace visited a relative at the prison.

Last year, Pace went to a perimeter fence and threw over the package. There was, said Mr Bennett, no direct evidence of for whom it was intended.

He said the drugs, of various kinds, would have had a value within the prison of £5,955.

"It was a considerable haul to put into the prison system," he said.

The court heard he had previous convictions for possessing cocaine and supplying heroin and cocaine.

When arrested, he made no comment.

His counsel, David Purnell, said he committed the earlier offences both when having a difficult time and associating with the wrong people.

Said Judge Michael Fitton: "I have to impose an immediate prison sentence, which is no surprise to you. You have potential and your work ethic is noted."

The 'management' at Cor Bro Ogwr face the audience

IN a change from their usual roles, Cor Bro Ogwr's conductor Rosie Howarth and accompanist Glenn Crooks faced the choir to showcase their special talents at a recital to raise funds.

Applause from the audience for Rosie Howarth and Glenn Crooks.

Tabernacle Church resounded to the organ as Glenn played a number of pieces, both contemporary and classical. Souza's 'The Liberty Bell March' even had some enthusiastic members of the audience actively participating.

We knew Rosie had a beautiful voice, having heard her at rehearsals, but we were all bowled over by her range and dramatic interpretation.

She sang a well-balanced mixture of classical pieces, Mozart, Strauss and everyone's favourite, Purcell's 'O Mio Babbino Caro', followed by songs from the musicals – Cole Porter, Hammerstein, Lloyd Webber.

A wonderful evening of music and we feel very fortunate to have such a talented duo to accompany and conduct us.

Our summer concert is entitled 'A Summer Evening at the Opera', and accompanying the choir will be three soloists: soprano Kate Reynolds, tenor David Powton and baritone Adam Jondelius, who will be also be performing opera arias.

A light hearted, fun evening – do join us. As always, there will be the interval bar to assist with the atmosphere.

Saturday, July 22 at 7pm in All Saints' Church, Porthcawl. Tickets £10 from choir members, at the door or on 01656 653326.

DOMINIQUE SPEAREY

The Big Toddle is now 21 years old

PORTHCAWL'S promenade was a sea of colour at the weekend when children took part in the Barnardo's Big Toddle, raising more than £2,600 for the charity's work.

Children and their families wore bright colours and fancy dress as they toddled along the seafront with characters dressed as Tellytubbies as part of a national fundraiser.

The Big Toddle is now in its 20th year as a UK-wide event and has raised more than £14m in that time, but it began in Porthcawl as a one-off event put on by the town's Barnardos' helper group.

Liz Singer, one of those original helpers, was back on the start line on Saturday alongside this year's organiser, mother-of-two Celyn Astrauskas who said: "We had a fantastic response and it was a lovely day.

"People said they had a lot of fun and I'm already thinking about putting on another toddle next year."

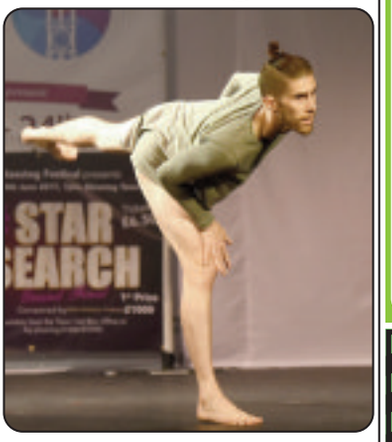
Sarah Crawley, director of Barnardos Cymru, said: "It was lovely to see so many families taking part and really enjoying the day.

"There was a great atmosphere and some very colourful outfits.

"We are very proud that the first Big Toddle took place in Porthcawl 21 years ago and that all these years later the town and its families are still supporting our work with vulnerable children, young people and families.

"It is events like this that help us make a difference and we hope it will become an annual event in Porthcawl once more."

Festival stars burn brightly



Mike Williams took first place, and £1,000. Photo by Phil Davies ScenicGallery.shop

SEARCH for a Star was the final event of the Maesteg Festival which ran for the month of May.

The entries were whittled down to a final 10 who competed in front of a packed hall, with judges being Debbie Chapman a choreographer for BBC Wales; Rebecca Evans, who is an opera singer, and Nathan Wyburn who has appeared on TV with his 'iconic celebrity portraits' on various items such as food.

The results were: third place Tracy Lewis with her comic monologue £250.

Second place was the UDC dance group with £500. In first place was dancer Mike Williams, who won £1,000.

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P & K made top women golfers welcome - and it was a great week!

Diane Bailey welcomes the Porthcawl Male Choir.

Photographs by Keith E Morgan

Simon Hopkin (secretary and manager of P&K), Caroline Jones (P&K ladies captain), Diane Baker (president of Ladies Golf Union); Steve Rock (P&K men's captain); and John Savile (president of P&K) with the Ladies British Amateur Golf Championship Trophy.

The catering team behind the welcoming barbecue.

Runner up Ainhoa Olarra, Spain receiving The Diana Fishwick Cup from Steve Rock.

The finalists putting on the 14th hole.

Leona Maguire with Caroline Jones, Ladies Captain, P&K.

Leona Maguire.

THE members of Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club are basking in the glory of a highly-successful British Ladies Amateur Open Golf Championships, which concluded on Saturday, June 17, *writes Philip Irwin*.

In a week when some very high quality golf was played, it culminated on Saturday afternoon (June 17) when Ireland's Leona Maquire (the current world number one amateur) beat Spain's Ainhoa Olarra 3/2 in the 18-hole final.

It was an exceptionally good final, with both girls hitting the ball long and straight around the demanding links course.

For instance, into a stiff breeze, both girls were on the long 11th hole in two.

Although both missed the occasional green in regulation by coming up slightly short, or running just through the green, only three of the 32 holes played were actually missed by the talented duo.

Maquire drove through the fairway on the dog-leg 13th, and her effort out of the rough came up short and left of the target, while Olarra hit into a greenside bunker on the par three 12th.

The only other 'errant' hole was again by the Spaniard, who hit a straight drive into a fairway bunker on the par five fifth from the tee. She played out safely and then hit a superb third with a three wood just right of the green.

From there she chipped stone dead but lost the hole to Maquire's birdie four. That was just one example of a high quality game.

The result, in the end, was settled because Miss Olarra had a disappointing afternoon on the greens – failing to get the pace right and then missing a few vital sort putts.

The Champion will receive a full exemption to the Ricoh Women's British Open and US Women's Open in the current year, provided she does not turn professional.

With many of these young woman, it is only a matter of time before they join the professional ranks, so remember their names!

Also worth noting for the future are Paula Grant, of Lisburn, Northern Ireland, who was the lowest qualifier for the event, and Linn Grant of Sweden (her father is Scottish, hence the surname) who scored the lowest round - a course record 65 that may stand for some time.

Pyle and Kenfig GC held a barbecue to welcome the players before the tournament started, and Porthcawl Male Choir were invited to give the golfers – who included 24 nationalities – a traditional Welsh greeting.

Conducted by musical director Mair Jones, and accompanied by Richard Davis, the choir offered a rousing selection of Welsh choral pieces mixed with popular songs.

'Million-dollar' show at the Coal Exchange by Bridgend Male Choir

THE historical Coal Exchange building in Mount Stuart Square, Cardiff, has been restored and converted into a luxury hotel, the Exchange Hotel.

It was here at the Coal Exchange that the first-ever £1,000,000 cheque was signed in 1901 and in 2017, the Bridgend Male Choir entertained 200 guests at the Chartered Institute of Builders' presidential dinner with a million dollar performance.

With Stephanie Bailey on piano and conducted by Ryan Wood, the choir gave a wonderful light and shade performance in the grand hall in this historic building in Cardiff Bay.

The assembled guests, both national and international, were astonished by the tonal quality and the depth of feeling and passion, prompting a standing ovation at the end of the performance.

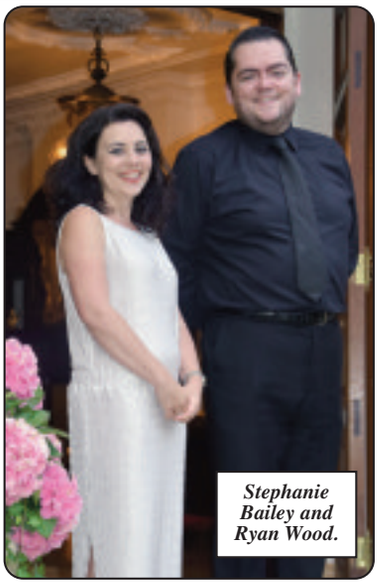
The next engagement is a concert in support of St Margaret's Hospice, Taunton, at St Cuthbert's Church, Wells, on July 8. This concert begins at 6pm with tickets £10 (concessions £8) available from *Debbie.Parsons@st-margarets-hospice.org.uk*.

The choir is always interested in attracting new members who will be made welcome at rehearsal every Thursday evening from 7.30pm until 9.30pm, at Oldcastle School, South Street, Bridgend, CF31 3ED.

A very warm welcome will also be extended to visitors to the area to sit in at one of the practices.

Contact the choir secretary, Gareth Reese on 01656 862037 or 07773 170373.

MC



Stephanie Bailey and Ryan Wood.

Big Step Against Bullying

BRIDGEND charity, Stand Against Bullying, is holding a sponsored walk on Saturday, July 8 starting from Sainsbury's car park, Bridgend (CF32 9ST) at 10.30am and ends at the Bridgend Agricultural Show, Pencoed Campus, Junction 35, M4.

There will be a party after the walk with a live band, disco, licensed bar and free burger/hot dog per person, starting at 7pm until 11pm. Tickets cost £5 per person and under-11s go free.

All proceeds go to Stand Against Bullying and Mental Health Wales Bridgend.

For walk registration forms and/or party tickets, contact sabullying@outlook.com, call 07927711909 or visit MHM Wales, Union Offices, Quarella Road, Bridgend, CF31 1JW. All registration forms must be with MHM Wales by June 2, stating t-shirt sizes.

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Heronsbridge come out on top in Rotary fishing competition

ON June 14 Bridgend and District Fishing for the Disabled and the Rotary Club of Bridgend remembered a past president of the Rotary Club, Byron Morgan JP, in the form of a fishing competition for the disabled at the Seven Oaks Fishery, Ystradowen.

Byron Morgan had a larger than life personality. Known as 'Morgan the Blind' because of his association (as headmaster) of the Bridgend Blind School, or 'Ponty', his ashes are spread under the posts on the clubhouse end of Pontypridd rugby ground.

He was a founder member of the Bridgend and District Fishing for the Disabled club which is now in its 21st year.

Teams from Heronsbridge School, Cwm Calon Day Centre and the Bridgend Resource Centre competed.

With a winning team catch of 16lb 8oz, the Byron Morgan Memorial Cup was presented to Kieran Payne, the team captain of the Heronsbridge School team by the current president of the Rotary Club of Bridgend, Dr Bob Broughton, who also presented a medal to Emmanuel Vista for the team's largest single catch of 2 lbs 8 oz.

Medals were also presented to Grace Dodge of the Bridgend Resource Centre (who had the heaviest individual catch of the day at 3lb 2oz) and Mal Watkins of Cwm Calon for their respective team's heaviest individual catch.

By combining skills and resources, members of the Rotary Club of Bridgend make a real contribution to the lives of others.

As Rotary is present in almost all countries, it is unique in being able to reach people in need all over the world, from running life-changing projects in developing countries, making an immediate response to disaster hit regions, and supporting local community projects.

If you are interested in joining or wish to find more about Rotary and/or Interact contact www.rotary.org or www.rotarybridgend.org.uk or the secretary of the Rotary Club of Bridgend on 01656 652181.

Cwm Calon (Maesteg) team, carers and Dr Bob Broughton.

Bridgend Resource Centre team, carers and Dr Bob Broughton.

Grace Dodge (Heaviest Catch of the Day) presented with her medal by Dr Bob Broughton.

Emmanuel Vista had the heaviest individual catch in the Heronsbridge team.

Niall Ferguson speaks at Lions Club evening

PORTHCAWL Lions Club held a 'flagship' event to mark 100 years of worldwide service work by Lions Clubs International, when more than 200 people attended All Saints Church, Victoria Avenue, Porthcawl, on June 21 for an evening in the company of Niall Ferguson.

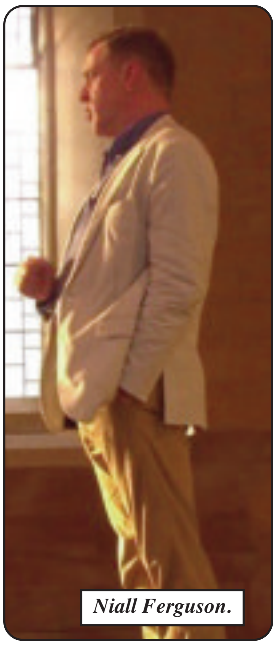
The renowned historian, academic, author and TV and radio presenter made an appearance to support the Porthcawl Lions in marking the centennial anniversary of Lions Clubs International.

With more than 1.4 million members in many countries, it was fitting that Professor Ferguson spoke with clarity and authority on a range of topics of world importance to the audience.

Event co-ordinator, and longstanding Lions member, Martin Patten, said the club was "overwhelmed" by the public support for the evening, which raised £2,000 for causes supported by Porthcawl Lions Club.

Porthcawl Lions will continue with its fundraising and service work in recognition of the centennial anniversary with a range of events, the next of which is a vintage and classic car rally to be held at the Porthcawl Rugby Club on August 5 starting at 12 noon.

AS



Niall Ferguson.

Nothing Harrowing about this experience for Bridgend Male Choir

RECENTLY, Bridgend Male Choir took part in a gala performance entitled 'Brass & Voices of Wales;, in the magnificent setting of the Old Speech Room at Harrow School.

The concert, conducted by leading Welsh orchestral conductor Owain Arwel Hughes, was organised to raise funds for St Mary's Church, Harrow On The Hill and all proceeds from the event will be donated directly to the St Mary's Roof Fund.

The choir featured alongside the Lewis Merthyr Band in a varied programme which included Welsh classics such as Myfanwy and Cwm Rhondda along with the stirring marches and the emotive Rev Eli Jenkins' prayer from *Under Milk Wood*, by Dylan Thomas.

This was the choir and Lewis Merthyr Band at their very best. A standing ovation followed the finale to a successful concert which can only enhance their reputation over the border.

In addition to performing at St Cuthbert's Church, Wells, Somerset in a charity concert in support of St Margaret's Hospice, Taunton on July 8, Bridgend Male Choir is the lead choir, along with Cor Meibion Morlais, Ogmore Vale and Cardiff Arms Park Choirs at this year's Welsh Proms, Brass and Voices Concert on July 26.

The concert at St David's Hall, Cardiff promises a rousing evening of the great Welsh hymns, opera choruses, and favourite classical works together with the world famous Cory Band under the baton of Owain Arwel Hughes.

Tickets for the 2017 season of the Welsh Proms Cymru are available from Welsh Proms venue: St David's Hall, Cardiff on 029 2087 8444 or online at www.welshproms.com/tickets.html

MC

Bridgend Bridge Club - latest results

THE results for recent events at Bridgend Bridge Club are as follows.

Wednesday, June 21: First, Tony Disley and John Evans; second, Irene Thomas and Graham Jones; third, Irene Wickham and Glyn Williams.

The winners on handicap were Irene Thomas and Graham Jones.

Thursday, June 22: First, Stuart Davies and Chris Rawlings; second, Dylis Bowser and V Irene Thomas; third, Paul Lyne and Dee Finch.

The winners on handicap were Dylis Bowser and V Irene Thomas.

Friday, June 23: First, Simon and Debbie Richards; second, Linda Jenkins and Teresa Griffiths; third, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams.

The winners on handicap were Linda Jenkins and Teresa Griffiths.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesdays and Fridays at Nolton church hall. Play is scheduled to start at 7pm: to enable a prompt start it helps if players arrive at least 10 minutes early.

On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, again at Nolton church hall, there is a gentle bridge session when help is available with the bidding.

All sessions are played in a friendly manner, visitors and new members are always welcome.

There will be a new series of lessons for beginners on Wednesdays from 4pm until 6pm starting on September 14, again in Nolton church hall.

For further information about the lessons and any other club activities please contact one of Steve Burgoyne 01656 661968, John Evans 01656 880372 or David Newman 01656 649138.

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF
SIROL PEN-Y-BONT AR OGWR

I give notice that the following applications have been made. The application documents can be viewed during normal office hours at the Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend CF31 4WB or on the planning page of the Council website. Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications on land use planning grounds should write to the Council at the above address by the date specified under each category of application or submit their comments online. Observations received on applications are not acknowledged. Any representations submitted will be open to public inspection and objectors/supporters may be identified on the internet. The Development Control Committee operates public speaking arrangements. If you wish to register an intent to speak at Committee (should the application not be processed under delegated powers) please indicate in your response. For more information tel: 01656 643675.

[illegible]

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (WALES) ORDER 2012
P/17/485/FUL Erection of drive-through coffee shop with associated access, parking and landscaping—Land fronting Junction 35 of M4 Pencoed by PMG 3 Ltd
The proposed development does not accord with the provision of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.
RESPOND BY: 12/07/2017
P/17/507/FUL Proposed kennels & cattery & temporary dwelling—Ty Risha Farm Pen y Cae Penyfai by Mr & Mrs D Hopkins
RESPOND BY: 12/07/2017
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990
DEVELOPMENT IN CONSERVATION AREA
P/17/511/FUL Construct 2no. 2 bed dwellings in garden—The Cottage 34 Esplanade Avenue Porthcawl by Mr & Mrs D Newton Williams
Conservation Area: Porthcawl
RESPOND BY: 19/07/2017

Mark Shephard Corporate Director Communities / Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol Cymunedau 29-06-2017

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AS SEEN ON TV

Caring groups get together to discuss the way forward

Suzy Davies AM with members of Cor Merched Cwm Llynfi.

CARERS week was marked in Bridgend by a special event organised by Bridgend Carers Centre which brought together a number of organisations able to offer help and advice.

This was staged at Brocastle Manor which is run by Hafodcare which jointly staged the event. It also reinforced the idea that care homes can be centres of other communal activity, making caring a natural part of any community, not a separate experience.

Among those attending was Regional AM Suzy Davies who is the Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Social Services.

She said that most of us will become a carer at some point in our lives – usually for a parent, sibling or partner – and that early information was what people wanted when they first found themselves in a position where they had become either carers or cared for.

She praised the organisers for bringing together such a variety of organisations who all offer help in different ways to carers. They included Carers Wales, the Alzheimer's Society, Bridgend Mental Health Carers, Stroke Association and Macmillan.

Mrs Davies said: "The value of the work done by unpaid carers annually in Wales is about £8 billion – equivalent to half of the Welsh Assembly's budget,

"As we face a future where more and more people are living longer, the caring challenge is becoming more acute.

"Political parties will have their own views on how this might best be met but there is also a growing consensus that working together and being led by the voices of carers and the 'care-for themselves' has to be the core of any way forward.

"Hats off to Bridgend Carers, not just for the direct support they give, but for helping us understand that if we do not support carers in the way they identify they need it, then any system will fail, however good the intentions."

Entertainment was provided at the event by Cor Merched Cwn Llynfi, conducted by Paul Deenik and accompanied by Laura Deenik.

COME HERE, PLUTO!

Pluto, as seen from 450,000 kilometres, in an image taken by the New Horizons probe. NASA / Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory.

PLUTO will be at it's nearest point to Earth on July 7, when it will be 4,839 million kilometers (or four-and-a-half light hours) away.

It is smaller than Earth's moon, about two-thirds its diameter, and such a long way away that only the largest telescopes can see it.

Nevertheless, the New Horizons probe sent back lots of wonderful images (who could fail to be captivated by the large white heart on Pluto's surface?) and information about the dwarf planet and its large moon, Charon.

We now know that Pluto has a thin atmosphere, a renewing and moving surface and possible internal heat which may have created a deep sub-surface ocean.

Jupiter is very bright in the evening sky, setting towards midnight. If you have good binoculars or a telescope, do try to make out its cloud bands and, more especially, the Great Red Spot, a storm that has lasted ever since being first observed 180 years ago.

Look also for the four Galilean moons, Io, Europa, Ganymede and Calisto, at least two of which may have life in their subsurface oceans. These moons are easily observable through a pair of ordinary 10x50 binoculars.

Saturn also shines brightly in the evening and early night sky, gradually fading as July moves on. The moon is near Saturn on the night of July 6/7. Venus shines in the eastern morning sky.

We have speculated recently on the possibility of life in the subsurface oceans of various moons in our own solar system, but scientists are actively searching for Earth-like planets orbiting other stars, including our near neighbours, Proxima Centauri, just four light years away and Barnard Star, a red dwarf located six light years away.

A spectograph installed at a 3.6 meter telescope at the La Silla observatory in Chile looks for small wobbles in a star's motion which happen when a planet tugs on the star during its orbit. The instrument is so sensitive that it can see motion at about walking pace (2 mph) from trillions of miles away! If exoplanets are indeed discovered around these stars then the Extremely Large Telescope featured in last month's Astronomy Corner should be able to image them and characterise their atmospheres, a crucial step in the search for evidence of life outside our soar system.

Norman Lloyd
Bridgend Astronomical Society.
www.bridgendastronomicalsociety.co.uk

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A few of the volunteers at Rest Bay, and a few of the bags of rubbish collected, at Porthcawl beach on June 25.

Scale of littering seen on Porthcawl Beach

SOME 220kg of litter was collected on Porthcawl Beach on June 25 by 72 local volunteers, part of a collaborative effort by Barefoot Wine & Bubbly and Surfers Against Sewage (SAS) as part of Barefoot Wine Beach Rescue Project, an initiative that encourages the British public to 'Leave Only Footprints' on the UK's beaches.

Olga Senkina, marketing director at Barefoot Wine & Bubbly, said: "At Barefoot Wine, our mission is to make the world a better place through wine and the Barefoot Wine Beach Rescue Project is a great example of how we do this. We are very proud to have worked with 6,200 volunteers to collect 13 tonnes of litter from UK beaches over the last nine years.

Dom Ferris, head of community and engagement at SAS, said; "Over the past decade it has never ceased to amaze us how incredible community spirit can be, something we see every year at the Barefoot Wine Beach Rescue Project."

NEW COMPANY OFFERS TO HELP WITH MOBILITY ISSUES

Staff and service users, and local politicians, at the new Maesteg business.

CHRIS ELMORE MP and Huw Irranca-Davies AM this week met a new local business designed to help those with disabilities get around.

Assisted Mobility Services, based in Maesteg, will provide transport with support for the elderly and people with disabilities around the Bridgend county area.

The business has adapted WAV (wheelchair accessible vehicles) and will help people with anything from hospital and doctor appointments to shopping and leisure activities.

At the opening Mr Elmore said: "This is a fantastic company with a really revolutionary idea. Nicola Ham and Linda Wongham, who run the company, are already taking bookings and we're hearing great things from people who would struggle to get out and about otherwise."

Mr Irranca-Davies AM added: "For all of us, including those who have a disability or mobility issue, it's so important to be able to get out and about.

"So it's great to have this business on our doorsteps providing another option for assisted travel."

'NO FAITH IN RECYCLING SCHEME IN BRIDGEND'

I AM following with interest the latest debacle of waste recycling in Bridgend county borough.

Many years ago, certain houses in the borough were supplied with two hard plastic food bins, one large and one small, a blue bag and two black plastic boxes.

These containers were supplied for a trial period just to see if this scheme of recycling would work.

The system must have been a success, as a short while later every house was supplied with these containers, even the houses that were supplied previously; everyone in our street had two complete sets.

We now have a third grandiose scheme – which to say the least is impractical. I doubt if the person who put his name to the Keir contract has lost much sleep through the criticism and is weighing up his options.

He can stay with the council thinking how wonderful a job he has done, resign (or be pushed out) with a massive enhancement/pension and wait until it all blows over and for one of his colleagues to nominate him for a 'gong' for services to recycling.

He can then name his own salary in the private sector.

Gareth Williams, Porthcawl.

First Minister to appear at Shout forum

PORTHCAWL Shout Forum (PSF) has for its guest speaker on July 7 at 2pm at Trinity Church, Porthcawl, local AM and Wales' First Minister Carwyn Jones.

This is an important opportunity to question Mr Jones, express your opinions and voice concerns. Shout is a free forum,which meets on the first Friday of the month and it is a non-political voluntary organisation.

Charity tourney at the Grove Golf Club for KPC Youth and Community

KPC held its annual charity golf day at The Grove Golf Club on June 23, with a total of 20 teams competing in the event.

Despite some light showers, the day went well with a great day's golf for those participating.

The results from the day were: First, Barclays 2 with a score of 98; second, Lodge of Sker (95); third, Andrew Singer Team 2 (94).

Longest drive was won by Gareth Howell of Swim Co; Nearest the Pin, Dai Hughes of Lodge of Sker. KPC held their usual Lost Balls competition which this year totalled 175, closest guesses at 174 and 176 by Phil Merriman of Weldec and Lee Owen.

KPC would like to thank all teams who took part in the day, including several who have supported the event for many years, and the new teams joining the event this year.

Thanks also go to Jonathan Brenchley of Barclays for match funding the raffle/auction held on the day, and Co-op Porthcawl for donating some welcome refreshment for the teams to take out on the day. Thanks to all who supported the event through raffle and auction prizes.

The event continued into the evening with excellent entertainment by duo 'Phil and Ash'!

It is hoped that the charity day will have raised around £3,000 for the charity. **AM**

BRIDGEND CHOIR VISITS FRENCH WINE REGIONS

Cor Tabernacl Bridgend.

COR Tabernacl Bridgend, together with members of Bridgend Town Twinning Association, recently visited Villenave d'Ornon, a suburb of Bordeaux, for a Festival of 'European Days'.

The choir had been invited to sing at the festival along with musicians from Germany and Portugal.

The Bridgend choir performed Welsh music including some of the Sacred Songs by Karl Jenkins, Welsh hymns and folksongs and an arrangement of 'The Lord bless you and keep you', composed by their conductor Matthew Nash.

The accompanist for the concerts was Glenn Crooks. The choir sang on two occasions, both at Le Cube, one for the delegation parties of the countries taking part and the second for the citizens of Villenave d'Ornon.

Both concerts were well attended and the choir's contribution delighted audiences.

Speeches were made by the mayors of the towns, and gifts were exchanged.

During its stay in France, the choir visited Bordeaux, with its monuments, bridges and architectural splendour.

With temperatures in excess of 30°C, members took the tourist bus or a city walk to find out more about the history of the ancient port.

Another visit took them to St Emilion, a famous medieval town renowned for its exceptional wine. The miles and miles of exquisite vineyards all around are a testament to the care shown in producing wine of this quality. Other excursions enabled the choir to visit the Medoc and Archachon.

The tour had been organised between the Twinning Associations of Bridgend and Villenave d'Ornon. The association with Villenave has been in place for more than 20 years and during that time, close friendships have developed between the citizens.

Last September, a delegation was received to promote tourism in Bridgend and Wales, through a trade forum.

In March 2017, Dawnswyr Penybont visited and performed for the St Patrick's Day celebrations and in April, the student exchange proved very successful.

While in Villenave, choir members and delegates were wined and dined and received an enormous welcome by their Town Twinning Group.

Thanks must go to the mayor, Patrick Pujol, to Joel Reynaud, chair of Jumelage and also Gerd Kammler for their organisational skills to enable this event to run so smoothly.

It surely was no easy task to co-ordinate concerts, accommodation, excursions and meals for representatives of six different European countries.

Bridgend Town Twinning Association is a friendly and forward thinking group which is always looking for new members with new ideas.

If you would like to join, contact secretary Madeleine Walters on 02920 892011 or visit *www.bridgendtowntwinning.co.uk* to find out about our activities and meetings.

You do not need to speak a foreign language, only be interested in other countries and cultures, so please come along to one of the meetings at Carnegie House. **AS**

'Shared prosperity' plan questioned by AM

HUW Irranca-Davies fears that the setting up of a UK Government "shared prosperity fund" could result in less money coming to Wales.

The Ogmore AM raised the issue at the National Assembly, where he asked Counsel General Mick Antoniw what discussions he has had on the legal implications for Wales of the proposed fund.

He said that while on the surface no-one would argue with the concept of a shared prosperity fund, concerns have been raised.

Mr Irranca-Davies said: "It sounds immensely warm, cuddly, fair and just, and everybody will have a stake in it."

He said his fear was that if the fund is set up and run from Westminster, it could be very unfair and even effect the current allocation of funding to the three devolved administrations.

He asked if Mr Antoniw shared his concern that this approach could fundamentally change the nature of devolution and re-establish Westminster control over devolved funding.

Mr Antoniw said his officials are considering the matter and the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee have been preparing a report.

He told Mr Irranca-Davies: "We intend to update members on this work over the coming months."

Michael Prosser

First Minister's defence of new recycling system

CARWYN Jones has defended a controversial new waste recycling system introduced by Bridgend Council.

The Welsh First Minister and Bridgend AM said that as a local resident, he has had no problem in operating the new system.

Mr Jones was questioned on the issue at the National Assembly by South Wales West AM Caroline Jones.

She said that if there is to be any chance of reducing the amount of waste being sent to landfill, the operation of recycling schemes should be made as easy as possible for homeowners.

Ms Jones said: "Unfortunately, local authorities appear to do the opposite.

"Bridgend, for example, have completely messed up the introduction of their new recycling scheme which, in the words of the council's deputy leader, has caused damage to the goodwill of residents.

"The situation is now so bad that more than 40 councillors have taken the unprecedented step of writing to the council's leader to complain."

Ms Jones asked Mr Jones what his Government can do to ensure that local authorities make it as simple as possible for residents to recycle.

Mr Jones said that as someone who lives in Bridgend he had found the new system simple. He said: "I've certainly recycled in the new system for the past two weeks without any problem at all.

"It's not massively different to the old system, in reality. There have been instances where rubbish has not been collected as it should have been, and that is something I know that the council have been focused on.

"But I have to say that some of the people who are complaining are people who didn't want the new contract in the first place, and who are not convinced that the current system is something that is worthwhile doing in any event.

"It is a matter for Bridgend Council, of course, to deal with any problems that arise, but I am assured by them that they are doing so."

GEM NOTE: Mr Jones did tweet a few days later that in week three of the scheme, his recycling had not been collected. He commented "No favouritism!"

AM joins disability charity cycle ride

SUZY DAVIES AM joined the Leonard Cheshire Disability charity to take part in its 'Senedd Tour De Cymru' event to help more disabled people access sport.

The original Tour de Cyrmu was a five-day, 350-mile cycle ride from Anglesey to Gwent, passing through all Leonard Cheshire facilities in Wales, raising over £10,000 to date.

The Senedd Tour De Cymru on June 21-22 saw Assembly Members helping to recreate that ride on static bikes at the Welsh Assembly to raise awareness of the importance of access to sport for disabled people.

Suzy Davies AM for South Wales West said: "I was delighted to take part in the Tour de Cymru here at the Assembly. Disabled people should be able to access sport, with all the joy and health benefits it can bring.

"I know the money raised will help make that a reality for more disabled people here in Wales."

Glyn Meredith, Leonard Cheshire's director of operations in Wales said: "We're very grateful to Suzy Davies and everyone who has supported this event.

"The money raised from Tour de Cymru will be used to support people who use our services in Wales to have access to adapted sports and physiotherapy equipment, as well as helping disabled people gain access to sporting events in the local area."

Residents in Leonard Cheshire services across Wales have been inspired to become more active since the launch of the tour.

"More than 30 people supported by the charity have taken part to enable their services to complete the 350-mile ride on static bikes.

Suzy Davies AM pedals for a good cause.

Is an umbrella the best way to deal with gull misery? asks GEM reader

I AM sure there are many people who suffer because of the constant calling and screeching of seagulls all hours of the night and day.

My own experience recently was that I was unable to go outside without those birds attacking me; the reason being a nest on the roof of my bungalow.

The only help available was the advice of the RSPB to go out with an umbrella to protect my head.

I understand there are people who feed these birds. I can only ask them to think twice about the misery these birds impose on people.

Mr K Power, Barry.

AM praises efforts of 'workers' co-operatives'

THE contribution 'workers' co-operatives' make to the economy has been praised by Ogmore AM Huw Irranca-Davies.

He said that Labour and Co-operative Party AMs and MPs were "keen to celebrate" 'Co-operatives Fortnight', which showcases the co-operative movement in the UK and throughout the world.

Mr Irranca-Davies suggested at the National Assembly that one way to mark that would be to hold a debate in the Senedd in which the role of the co-operatives could be discussed. He said: "A debate would allow us to discuss a real alternative found in the co-operative economy, now valued at £35.7 billion in the UK, with over 226,000 employees in over 6,000 co-ops, covering housing, transport, farmers, food producers, health care, social care, renewables and retail, from community enterprises to multi-million-pound businesses.

Fellow Labour AM, and Business Secretary, Jane Hutt said the points Mr Irranca-Davies had made were "very important".

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For animals to be eligible they must have been previously vaccinated.

This year in our area, there have already been several cases of parvovirus, some of which have proved fatal to unvaccinated dogs.

MERIAL zoetis

Directions - A48 from Bridgend, take slip road off for Cowbridge, as road bends to left turn right, sign at bottom of drive. Too far if gone under fly over bridge. If coming through Cowbridge, at the end of the High Street head for A48 Cardiff, go under fly over bridge and turn left (before entering carraigeway). Do not follow a sat nav! If lost please phone!

Staff rise through the ranks at Sony Pencoed

SONY UK Technology Centre (UK TEC) has appointed two of its dedicated staff members to senior management roles within the industry-leading company.

New business development manager Nabila Elias and head of engineering Martyn Woodfield have been promoted to the senior management team at the Pencoed facility.

Mrs Elias first joined the award-winning facility, which produces thousands of HD broadcast and professional camera systems, in 2012 as a project manager.

Over the past five years, her responsibilities have extended to include marketing across the Contract Electronics Manufacturing Business, which manufacturers for third party clients, such as the Raspberry Pi. She has also played an instrumental role in the success of Sony UK TEC's Ffilm Factory 35, which has welcomed high-profile productions including *Dr Who, Will, Keeping Faith*, and *Decline and Fall*.

Nabila Elias is one of two recent internal promotions to the senior management team of Sony Pencoed.

On her promotion, she said: "I am thrilled to be taking on this role within the senior management team."

Joining Mrs Elias in the senior management team is Mr Woodfield, who has devoted 27 years of his career to the manufacturing facility.

Since joining in 1990, he has worked across several departments before being promoted into his current role as head of engineering. He currently oversees a team of 48 staff who carry out new model introduction, including the newly launched state-of-the-art 4K cameras, and process improvements.

Mr Woodfield said: "I am extremely pleased to have been appointed to this role as I feel I can add knowledge, experience, strategy and innovative ideas to enhance Sony UK TEC."

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

RATTY'S RETURN! Water voles released at Cosmeston

A BIG step was taken this week in the conservation of one of the UK's most endangered species when around 100 water voles were released into Cosmeston Country Park in Penarth.

The UK's population of water voles – children's book *The Wind in the Willows* – has reduced by up to 95 per cent since the 1960s. This is largely due to predation by American mink and loss of habitat.

To combat this, the Vale Council has worked with Natural Resources Wales (NRW) to develop a specially prepared environment in which the rodents can live and breed.

The project is the first such collaboration between NRW and a local authority since a successful pilot project in Carmarthenshire in 2014.

Aaron Jones, park ranger at Cosmeston, said: "The park is a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest and its lakes, ditches, reedbeds and other plant life make for the perfect habitat for water voles to thrive.

"Here at Cosmeston, we do a great amount of work with local schools and voluntary groups to promote conservation and following this week's release that will become the focus of our work with the creatures. We will be teaching children and young people about the importance of helping preserve the habitats of indigenous creatures and of the risks that come with introducing new species to the ecosystem."

Meanwhile, Richard Davies, Fish Culture Officer for Natural Resources Wales, said:

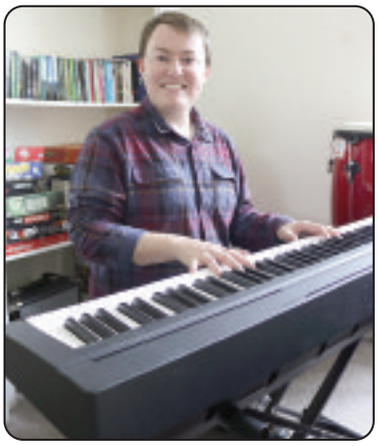
"Water voles were once common in rivers, canals and ponds across Wales, and an important part of our environment.

"Our work to breed them at our hatchery in mid Wales and our partnership with local authorities, wildlife trusts and land owners to improve habitats and to set up new populations, will boost their chance of survival."

The team at Cosmeston will be on hand throughout the week to help them adjust to their new environment. Over the course of the week the food and artificial nests in which the animals have been reared will be removed and the community of voles will be left to enjoy their new home.

Penarth man's call to fund autism charity

A CALL for an autism charity to receive some of the £13m earmarked by the Welsh Government to improve autism services in Wales has come from a Penarth man.



Aled Thomas, aged 23, who was a Plaid Cymru Party of Wales candidate at the council elections, has written to the Welsh Government asking for a consultation exercise on its plans to spend the £13m on a new National Autism Integrated Service for Wales.

Mr Thomas, who was diagnosed with autism as an adult, launched a petition urging the Welsh Government to give funds to the charity, Autism Spectrum Connections Cymru, if it applies for a grant.

"While I welcome the £13m for this action plan and the new autism bill which was passed last week," he said, "I'd be keen for some of this money to be spent on supporting this excellent charity."

In his letter to the Cabinet's Secretary of Social Services and Public Health, Rebecca Evans AM, Mr Thomas urges the Government to launch a public consultation, especially for those people living with autism, to ask them for their opinions on how the money should be spent in Wales.

"This would help to ensure that the money being spent on autism services is spent in a way that is most beneficial for the people living with autism," he said.

"As an individual living with this condition, I have yet to come across a better provider of day-to-day support than the one-stop shop in Cardiff, ASC Cymru. There is a strong campaign for improving the awareness of those with mental health in society and I believe the campaign for autism should have an equal status."

Mr Thomas said the charity tailors support for the individual and arranges post-diagnostic sessions, employment support workshops, drop-ins and supported social groups.

"It is unique and there are only three groups of this kind in the UK, two in Scotland and the one in Wales," he said. "There are 500 people registered with it in Wales, many of whom use its services on a daily basis."

Details of Mr Thomas' petition are due to be published on the Welsh Government's website on June 27.

MOTHER GOES FROM TEACHING TO PREACHING...

A MOTHER-of-three is swapping teaching for preaching as she begins a new life in church ministry this week.

Rosemary Hill, along with Charlotte Rushton, Mark Broadway, Peter Godsall and Jude Peters, were ordained as deacons by the Bishop of Swansea and Brecon, John Davies – the Church in Wales' senior Bishop – at Llandaff Cathedral on June 24 at 10.30am.

The former teacher will serve as assistant curate in Penarth and Llandough (St Augustine's). Charlotte, a former police civilian finance team leader, will serve as assistant curate in the parish of Merthyr Tydfil, St David and Abercanaid; and Mark, a former legal worker, will serve as assistant curate in Coity, Nolton and Brackla with Coychurch.

Retired health and safety advisor Peter, will serve as assistant curate (NSM Local) in the parish of Aberdare, St Fagans; and Jude Peters, a reception administrator in the Llandaff Diocesan office at Coychurch, Bridgend, will serve as assistant curate (NSM) in the Rectorial Benefice of Llantwit Major.

As non-stipendiary ministers, both Peter and Jude will carry out their work for the church alongside their paid or other roles.

Rosemary, 36, whose brother is a priest, was brought up an Anglican in her home town of Bridgend and spent a decade teaching English before training for the priesthood.

As one of five children Rosemary was a regular at Sunday school, acting as an altar server at St Mary's Church, Nolton and from the age of six she was a chorister, achieving the Dean's Award from the Royal School of Church Music.

It was in her teens, while witnessing her brother Matthew training for ministry and while she was acting as an altar server that she first thought of becoming a priest herself.

"As time went by though I decided it was too scary and I became less active in the church," said Rosemary.

But the call to priesthood was to return some years later and the journey to ordination began after a chat with her parish priest.

"I absolutely loved teaching, particularly the pastoral side of it but ordination felt the right path for me – going right back to when I was a young child sitting in church looking up at the priest wondering what it felt like to be up there.

"I am excited but a bit scared as well, as I don't think that you can go into such a big position of service – and that's what it is, it's not a job, it's a vocation – and not be a little apprehensive. Sacramental ministry is the most exciting part.

"I am really looking forward to be able to be with people at their most vulnerable and their most joyous, as this is a privilege that not many people have."

Charlotte Rushton, 42, is delighted to be returning to her home town of Merthyr Tydfil.

Mark Broadway, 29, a former legal worker who moved to Wales from Burnham-on-Sea to read law at the University of Glamorgan, is also looking forward to parish ministry.

Although he went to church occasionally as a child, it was not until he was 16 that he became a Christian because of the outreach work of a free church that he had become involved with.

"I felt a call to some sort of ministry but I wasn't sure how I fitted in until I went to university and became an Anglican and got confirmed at St Catherine's Church in Pontypridd. Anglicanism offered me a better insight into what type of ministry I could do," said Mark, who is married to Bianca and has two young children.

"My passion is preaching and teaching but I am really looking forward to carrying out baptisms and I am very excited about getting to know the church community in Bridgend."

Jude Peters, 56, also began her journey into ministry as a Reader, a post she has held for the past nine years. Married to Mike and with three children, Jude spent her early years in the Midlands, where she attended Sunday School and as a teenager went to church with her late mother.

She moved to south Wales with her family 13 years ago and immediately felt at home in Llantwit Major. And it was while sitting in the pew in her local church that Jude heard an appeal from the Rector for people to come forward to train as Readers.

"I literally hadn't thought of becoming a Reader until that point but when I look back over my history I can see signposts towards ministry," said Jude, who within a few years of becoming a Reader began to think about training for ordination.

"I particularly enjoy being with older people and listening to their stories – we are all so busy these days, that many older people are in danger of being isolated." **AS**

New deacons and ordinands: (left to right) Peter Godsall, Charlotte Rushton, Rosemary Hill, Mark Broadway and Jude Peters. Photograph ©Huw Riden.

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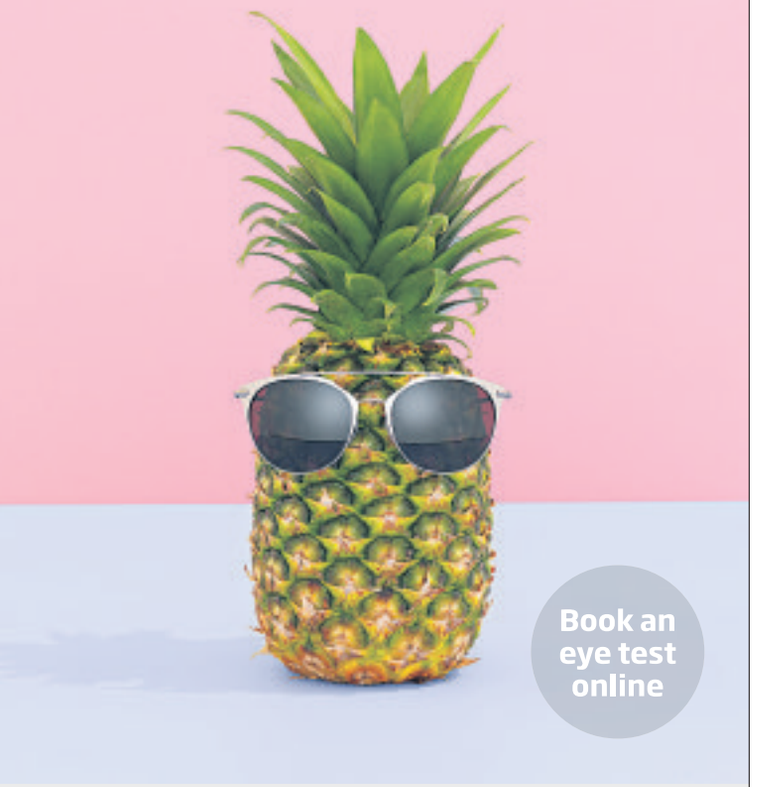

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Glamorgan GEM exclusive

Housing targets a key issue as LDP gets green light

AS The GEM was going to press on Wednesday evening, the Vale Council was due to meet and accept the Local Development Plan (LDP), but the council insisted that it was still committed to limiting 'inappropriate' development in the area.

The LDP provides the legal framework for development and use of land in the Vale, and was presented to the Welsh Government in 2015 for a Planning Inspector to examine.

The new council had hoped to defer a final decision on the LDP, but the Deposit Plan (a draft version of the LDP) has been declared 'sound' by a planning inspector which means the council must formally adopt it within eight weeks.

The Vale Council Leader, Coun John Thomas, wrote recently to the Welsh Government asking for a review of housing targets, which are set by the Welsh Government, but which were based on data from 2008 population forecasts.

He said that up to date figures suggest that the 10,000-home target could be higher than necessary and asked for the new data to be taken into consideration.

He followed that up by making a formal request last week to defer adopting the LDP, but that bid was unsuccessful.

It means that according to planning law, the council had to adopt the Local Development Plan at this week's full council meeting.

The Conservative administration say they remain committed to opposing "inappropriate housing development in the Vale".

Speaking ahead of the meeting, cabinet member, Coun Jonathan Bird, said:

"We have been left with no alternative but to adopt the LDP and we are deeply disappointed that multiple efforts to delay a decision have been unsuccessful."

He said that although the administration had only been going a few weeks it had done everything it could to present a case which would persuade the Welsh Government to reduce housing targets in the Vale.

He added: "We have made it clear in recent years that a target of 10,000 homes is too many, and we remain absolutely committed to opposing inappropriate development in the Vale.

"We will continue to press for reduced housing targets. But it is my belief that having an LDP in place will better enable us to protect our green spaces from applications to develop. This is a battle that we will continue to fight."

Masons help the UEFA Champions League – and Robbie Williams!

Some the Masons Moving Group team at the Principality Stadium.

IMAGINE you're at standing in the heart of the Principality Stadium, home to great sporting and cultural occasions, and you need to stage two entirely different events with huge logistical challenges…what do you do?

On June 3, the Champions League Final was being staged with billions of people across the world watching the match. It meant that more than 5,000 seats had to be removed from the stadium to make way for TV cameras and commentary boxes for press from around the world.

However, on June 21, Robbie Williams was performing a sell-out concert in the same stadium and all of the seats had to be put back in their right places.

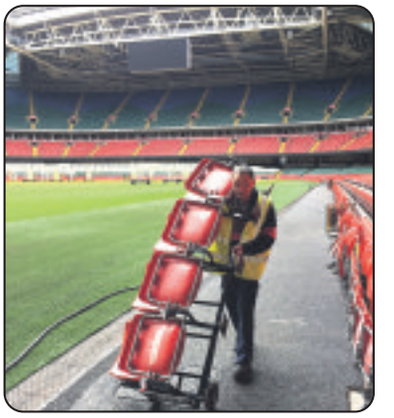
So, over 5,000 seats needed to be taken down, stored and then put back in the exact same order…what would your plan be?

That was the daunting brief that Gary Mills of Electranet, which manages a variety of contracts for stadium, presented to Masons Moving Group in Barry.

Gary looked far and wide for a solution, examining lots of different options, including storage containers. He needed a removal company in Cardiff that could not only remove the seats within the tight timescales, but also store them until they were required again in time for the Robbie Williams concert.

Sarah Mason of Masons explained: "It might sound simple to remove over 5,000 seats and then just put them back again, but it is a complicated project. The seats need to be removed, colour-coded, and numbered in a specific order, stored in that order, then replaced with the exact, correct structure of seating.

"There weren't many removal companies in Cardiff that had enough men, were professional enough to manage the logistics, as well as having the capacity to store 5,000 plus seats!



Masons' staff removing seats at ground level – part of a huge logistical challenge.

Masons Moving Group were appointed as we ticked all of the boxes."

The company broke the project down into a manageable plan.

Sarah explained: "From Level 6, 3,000 seats had to be removed for the Champions League Final and then 750 seats from the pitch level with another 2,000 seats having to be removed on the North Stand Level 4.

"We started removing seats at pitch level which is where the seats will need to be replaced first and worked our way up according to a very comprehensive colour-coded plan!

"There was also the problem of removing, storing and returning the Principality Stadium signage, which had to be carefully handled and each letter expertly wrapped in furniguard for extra protection while in transit and storage.

"It was a huge logistical job for Masons Moving Group, with resources pulled in from across the group to accommodate the move.

"It was rolled out in three phases, the first two of which took over two weeks to complete, and included the provision of over 30 van loads, and the packing of over 100 storage containers with the application of 50 trained staff.

"Along with the signage, all seats were stored for a six-week period."

Danny Jenkins, one of Masons' experienced porters, said: "You just wouldn't believe what preparation goes on behind the scenes for these big events, such as a guy abseiling with a power-blast to jet-wash the stadium, to the detailed work of lighting the pitch.

"And in the midst of all of this work, you have lots of tours going on, with people visiting the stadium, taking photos and selfies. It was an incredible experience for me and the men. We even got to meet Gareth Edwards!"

Sarah takes up the story: "We began on April 27, two of the three phases were completed after the Champions League final in preparation for the Robbie Williams concert on June 21, and the final phase will be completed in July.

"It has been incredibly exciting trying to mastermind a project that has such tight deadlines; however, we are so excited to be involved in a project involving such a key part of Welsh culture!"

It is amazing to think that Masons began over 100 years ago as a horse-and-cart company, and is now helping events and people to move on a global scale. See www.masonsmovingroup.co.uk.

Rhodri Dafydd Miller memorial trophy awarded

Ellen Dafydd and Mr Stephens.

AT Ysgol Bro Morgannwg, Rhodri Dafydd Miller's memorial trophy has been awarded for a second year

Rhodri was an A* maths student studying towards his A-Levels when he died in a car crash.

His family have created the award in his memory, and they said: "Mathematics is often a subject overlooked when an award is given out. However, it is in its own right a very complex subject to study and achieve good grades.

"Elen Dafydd (year-13) was presented with this trophy by Rhodri's younger brother Iestyn, who spoke of the importance of life and also how important it is to him that Rhodri, Alesha and Corey should be remembered for their kind and caring personalities, that touched on the lives of all those lucky enough to have known them.

"Mr Stephens remembers Rhodri for his laid back attitude, able to mix with students of all abilities, in and out of the classroom. This was a key factor in electing Elen Dafydd to be presented with this award. Elen is going on to study economics at London University.

Rhodri Miller.

Therefore her prize of £250 received from Dave and Jo (parents of Rhodri) and patrons of the King William, in recognition of all her hard work in maths during her sixth form studies, will hopefully help a little towards her expenses.

"We, as a family would like to thank Ysgol Bro Morgannwg for their support in allowing this trophy to be presented each year in memory of Rhodri."

CHURCH CONCERT FOR GRENFELL FIRE VICTIMS

ON Wednesday, June 21 in Cowbridge United Free Church, a concert took place to raise money for those affected by the recent fire in London.

Vocelle ladies' choir and Hims 'n' Arias men's choir offered up a wonderful programme, including *Les Miserables* and soloists, cellist Katie Cox, solo singer and Geraint Hopkins, who were part of an amazing concert directed by Meryn Williams.

Everyone enjoyed cold drinks on an extremely hot mid-summer evening and a raffle supported by many businesses in the Pontyclun and Llanharan/Llanhari areas raised over £250.

The total continues to grow from the £1,200 taken on the night and currently stands at more than £1,300, which will be sent to help following the Grenfell Tower fire.

Rev Heather Weddell,
Cowbridge United Free Church

DINAS CHARITY'S 'STRAWBERRY TEA'

The Georgia Jazz Band will be entertaining visitors at the charity's 'Strawberry Tea'.

LOCAL charity Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern (DPVC) is holding its annual Strawberry Tea in the Lee Hall and gardens, Britway Road, Dinas Powys, at 2pm on Wednesday, July 12.

A spokesman said: "This event has become a red-letter day in the social calendar in Dinas Powys and a great afternoon out for everyone.

"It is an example of the way in which the residents and organisations in this village work together for the benefit of the whole community.

"There will be a wonderful range of cakes and refreshments and delicious strawberries and cream.

"The Georgia Jazz Band are playing 'trad jazz' all afternoon, so come along for a great foot tapping afternoon out!"

For more information, go to: www.dpvc.org.uk/; or call 029 20513700.

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Out & About with The GEM

Barry Friendship Tree Festival at The Knap

Some of the performers at last year's festival.

ART4U is set to hold its annual Friendship Tree Festival in Barry on Sunday, July 23, and organisers hope this year's will be the best yet.

The event will feature talented local musicians, dancers, artists and craftspeople, together with a few guest surprises.

Musicians performing will include Wayne Brennan, Naomi Rae Heap, The Hank Hillman Band, The Tenovus Choir, To Bear Sir, Chris Bourge, The Danielle Nicholls Band, Georgia Patterson Band, Persian Bells dance group, Paul Duggan, Vivian Hinds Payne, Dylan Morgan, Matthew Hann, Bel Blue, and Soho Sopranos.

More performers are likely to be confirmed in the next few weeks.

The event will take place at the Knap lake and gardens from 11.30am on July 23, and entry is free.

Organiser, Glyn Pooley, told The GEM: "The theme of the festival is 'Peace and Friendship'.

"Our aim is to create a gentle event, with a friendly atmosphere. This year we will also be joined by members of Enfys Craft Fair, The Barry Camera Club and the fine artist Tony Alcock, who will be displaying their artwork and running workshops. If you are an artist or craft maker and would like to take part, please get in touch.

"We welcome all members of the public to come and enjoy this free day of music, art, dance, peace and friendship in a beautiful natural setting. Bring a picnic and a blanket and help us keep the sun shining!"

Art4U Wales aims to bring 'collaborative art' to the public of Barry and the Vale and bring people outdoors to celebrate nature.

For more information on Art4u and the Friendship Tree Festival, visit www.art4uwales.org.uk. Donations to Art4U Wales welcomed. The event is supported by the Vale Council.

Concert by the Spectrum Singers

Spectrum Singers backstage with Eric Whitacre at St David's Hall, Cardiff.

THIS July sees the climax of the summer season for Spectrum Singers, an *a cappella* group of choristers from around the Vale.

The National Trust welcomes Spectrum back to the Great Hall of Dyffryn's mansion on July 8.

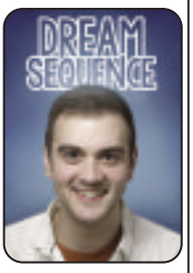
As part of Making Music's Adopt a Composer project, the chamber choir has collaborated with Rosie Clements, an emerging young composer who has turned her talents to creating a new piece inspired by Dyffryn, which will be premiered at the concert and recorded for BBC Radio 3.

The choir, fresh from supporting Eric Whitacre at a recent concert at St David's Hall in Cardiff, will take to the stage on Saturday, July 8 with the evening entitled 'Air' and performing the piece inspired by Penarth and the Vale.

Air – Evening concert with Spectrum Singers at Dyffryn Gardens is on Saturday, July 8 at 7.30pm. Tickets £15 including refreshments, available from 029 2059 3328 or by visiting www.spectrumsingers.org.uk.

Vale student brings Cambridge to Cardiff

PERFORMING on Tuesday, July 4 at Cardiff's Glee Club is *Dream Sequence*, the Cambridge Footlights 2017 Tour.



Zak Ghazi-Torbati from Barry.

Co-written by ex-Stanwell pupil Zak Ghazi-Torbati from Barry, a third-year student at Magdalene College, it begins a three-month world tour performing to over 20,000 people across two continents.

The tour was sold out in its first week in Cambridge and it tours the UK before a month at the Edinburgh Fringe and then a US tour.

Tickets can be bought online from the Glee Club at /www.glee.co.uk/performer/cambridge-footlights/ or by phone on 0871 472 0400. 400721 472 040071 472 0400.

What's on, and where?

Barry concert

THE Barry Male Voice Choir annual concert is on Friday, June 30 at St Helen's RC Church in Wyndham Street, Barry at 7pm.

Tickets £10 at the door or telephone 01446 402398.

MP's surgery

VALE MP Alun Cairns will be hosting the first surgery of his third term in Parliament. The surgery will take place at Barry Library on Friday, June 30 between 12pm-2pm. No appointment necessary; all constituents welcome.

Plaid Cymru councillors' surgery

RESIDENTS are invited to attend the Plaid Cymru advice surgery on Saturday, July 1 between 11am and 12 noon at the Community Room, County Library, King Square, Barry with any local issues they may have.

Plaid Cymru Councillors Ian Johnson, Nic Hodges, Shirley Hodges and Steffan Wiliam will be joined by newly-elected Millie Collins and Mark Hooper.

Enfys craft fair

THE next 'first Saturday of the month' craft fair will be on July 1 at the St Ffransis Millennium Hall, Park Road, Barry (CF62 6NX). Doors open 10am – 4pm and admission is free.

Every crafter and many of our visitors enjoy lunchtime in Ann's Kitchen. Her breakfast buns with fried eggs and bacon are simply mouth-wateringly good!

Our charity for July will be Tenovus, as our wonderful cake maker Louise's daughter Emily will be climbing Kilimanjaro later on this year raising funds for Tenovus. For more information about the fair call Reg on 01446 792149 or Patricia on 01656 880784.

Alzheimer's support group

IF you care for someone with dementia or Alzheimer's Disease, and want support and advice – remember, 'you are not alone'.

Alzheimer's Cardiff in the Vale will be at the Age Connects Senior Health Shop at 38 Holton Road, Barry on July 4 from 10am – 12pm. Come and chat to a member of the team about support groups, help with care, helping your loved one to remain independent, legal and financial support etc. No appointment is needed. Call 01446 73385 for further information.

Equity Release

IF you own your own home, are interested in Equity Release and would like some advice and information, Age Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a drop-in session on Tuesday, July 4 from 10am to 12 pm.

This will be held at The Senior Health Shop on Holton Road, Barry. Call 01446 732385 or just come along.

Fibromyalgia advice

IF you or a loved one or relative have been diagnosed with fibromyalgia and you are looking for a support group in your local area, Age Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a drop-in information session on Tuesday, July 4 at 10am to 12pm.

This will be held at the Age Connects Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry. Call 01446 732385 for further information or just come along.

Meditation course

FOLLOWING the six-week course in Meditation and Mindfulness in April, a new course will be held at The Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry each Thursday from 3.15pm to 4.15pm.

Meditation classes can help with relief of pain, anxiety, sleep disorders and many other health conditions. Join Natalie, an experienced teacher, for easy-to-use techniques.

A class is also being held on Monday mornings at Health Conscious Centre, Llantwit Major, from 9.30am to 10.30am. For further information on any of the classes, contact Natalie on 07341 264686 or just come along.

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

Billboard Ensemble *Made in Dagenham*!

BILLBOARD Ensemble is busy rehearsing for its 21st anniversary production, the hit musical *Made in Dagenham*.

Billboard Ensemble's founder Johnathon Mason Coombs said: "I still can't believe that 21 years ago I set up Billboard and we're still going from strength to strength, producing musicals and pantomimes for the people of the Vale and Barry to enjoy.

"We always strive in Billboard to bring something new and something special with our summer musicals, either a big Broadway hit or a West End hit at a fraction of the ticket price. Last year's summer production *Legally Blonde the Musical* was a premier for the Vale and this year is no exception."

A spokesperson added: "Billboard has a reputation for staging big scale musicals with lavish sets and costumes and always a live orchestra."

Later this year it will stage *The Snowqueen (A frozen tale)* at The Memo Arts Centre and are looking to the future with 'new and exciting projects' for both the junior and adult sections of the company.

Made In Dagenham runs from July 25 to 28 at the Memo Arts Centre. Box office 01446 738622 or www.memoartscentre.co.uk.

Poetry showcase at Penarth LitFest

EVENTS for all ages and reading tastes feature in the programme for this year's Penarth Literature Festival, over the weekend of July 7-10.

Poetry lovers may particularly appreciate the Poetry Showcase on Sunday, July 9 at Waterloo Tea, Stanwell Road, starting at 8pm (doors open 7.30pm).

Local resident Stephen Payne hosts an evening with three contemporary poets reading from their work, plus music from Penarth Acoustic Club co-founder, Phil Nedin.

Michael Laskey, founder of the Aldeburgh Poetry Festival and considered one of the leading poets writing in the UK today, comes from Suffolk. He has been shortlisted for the TS Eliot Prize and has five published collections, most recently *Weighing the Present*.

Amy Wack grew up in California but has lived in Cardiff for nearly 30 years. She is the poetry editor for Seren Press/Poetry Wales, and her own most recent published work was a 12-part piece in Long Poem Magazine, inspired by Spanish feral cats.

Katherine Stansfield is a novelist and poet whose first published collection was *Playing House*. She is currently completing her second collection, for which she was awarded a bursary by Literature Wales.

Tickets are £5 each. To book places for this and all other Penarth Literature Festival events, go to www.griffinbooks.co.uk or contact Griffin Books on 02920 706455.

Sandville offers a warm welcome to Bridgend MG Club members

Report and photographs by Keith E Morgan

ABOVE: A full car park at the Sandville.

THE Sandville Self Help Centre at Ton Kenfig was chosen again this year for the start of the seventh national event of the Bridgend MG Owners Club – the 'Cwm to Coast Run'.

On Sunday, June 11, Sister Gwyneth Poacher, waved off from the Sandville some 60 plus vintage cars and their crews.

What a grand day and occasion it was with a spectacular route planned for the cars and their crews, up the Afan Valley through Cwmafan and past the aqueduct at Pontrhydyfen, on through Cymmer to the top of the valley before descending down the Swansea Valley for a stop for lunch at the picturesque Craig-yr-Nos Country Park, before returning for the last lap to the final rendezvous at the Grove Golf Club at South Cornelly for dinner and an enjoyable evening of recollections.

It was a busy morning for the Sandville team who turned out in force before 8am to provide tea, coffee and biscuits for the MG Club members.

There were cars from both the Bridgend MG Club and the South Birmingham Triumph Stag Owners Club who supported the event with six vintage vehicles.

Before the start of the run, Paul Bullock, chairman of the Bridgend MG Club gave a talk regarding the rules and regulations for the route and to thank all those for taking part.

These included Chris and Nesta Steins and John and Arneta Bendall for planning the route for this year, Stuart and Debbie Taylor for the administration, organising the picnic bags and the meals, Diane Bullock and Bhanu Hirani for selling the raffle tickets and James Scott and members of the South Birmingham Triumph Stag Owners Club for supporting the event.

Last of all, Paul thanked Sister Gwyneth Poacher for the very warm welcome given to the visitors.

Leaving the Sandville and heading out on the run.

RESIDENTS URGED TO JOIN 'FOCUS GROUP'

THE public is invited to take part in town centre regeneration planning for Bridgend with 'First Impressions: what do visitors to our town really see?' on Friday, July 7 from 6.30pm to 8.30pm at Carnegie House, Wyndham Street, Bridgend.

Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) councillors along with Bridgend town councillors for the three Bridgend town centre wards of Morfa, Oldcastle and Newcastle would like to invite members of the public to work with them in helping to make Bridgend town centre "...a better place to live, work and visit".

A spokesperson said: "This is a chance for members of the public to record their views by completing a written town survey.

"After meeting at Carnegie House, small groups will be sent off to various access points to the town, including the train station, bus station, car parks and popular pedestrian routes and asked to survey their journey back into town through 'the eyes of a visitor' who is unfamiliar with the town and recording the positive and negative points they discover along the way.

"This will be followed by a short meeting at Carnegie House where refreshments will be provided and participants will be able to hand back their completed surveys, discuss their findings and more importantly get the chance to meet their town and county councillors."

The feedback received during this event will allow an action plan to be drawn up which can be worked on by BCBC, Bridgend town council and the BID Company, CF31, as well as highlighting any actions that 'require attention from external agencies'.

"It is important that we gather the views of as many people as possible," stressed the spokesperson.

For anyone that might be interested, contact *Coun Nicole Burnett at cllr.nicole.burnett@bridgend.gov.uk or telephone 07773 050830.*

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Donkey sanctuary gets help from students

The team celebrate with a well-earned rest.

Jade Ashill and Mason Miller take care of the donkeys with Charlotte from Amelia Trust Farm.

STUDENTS on two Fast Forward courses at Cardiff and Vale College's Barry Campus have combined their skills to create a donkey sanctuary at the Amelia Trust Farm.

The students aimed to improve the lives and understand the needs of rescued donkeys at the Vale of Glamorgan farm as part of their volunteering qualifications.

Wayne Carter, CAVC's widening participation manager said: "We are keen to enable students to support community-based projects which provide meaningful experiences to enhance their personal and employability skills.

"Students worked over a six-week period at the project, learning about health and safety, cleaning stables, basic care, grooming, walking and generally tending the four rescued donkeys.

"They also developed their carpentry skills and built an outside classroom from reclaimed wood to improve the visitor experience.

"Above all the students worked as a team to create fantastic results. Two students, Kimberly Thomas and Mason Miller, are also working on digital interactive guides to the farm to get more people involved in the great work that staff and students at Amelia Trust Farm undertake."

Mason Miller, who is 17 and from Barry, said: "I feel that the farm was a brilliant experience for me. Working with the donkeys was great.

"Learning more about them and how to look after them on a day to day basis was really interesting. Building the shelter was quite fun and useful for the future, learning how to use different tools and how to take measurements.

"Getting to know people was great as well, along with meeting the other Fast Forward group was nice – it felt good mixing with other people."

Malcolm Jones, education manager at Amelia Trust Farm said: "The project has been a total success due to having a balance between learning practical skills and animal assisted therapies within a nurturing environment.

"The students have flourished and have grown in confidence to a point that other younger people aged 14-16 at the farm, have now been inspired to follow the same path and attend college."

'Oh, oh, oh what a lovely walk!'

WITH the heatwave over and temperatures returning to normal, 11 walkers joined John at the Red Lion in Bonvilston for a Valeways walk.

Leaving the pub, they headed across fields and through a small wood towards Ty'n y Coed, at one stage walking through a herd of cows that were accompanied by a large bull.

On reaching the road, they walked by a large new house which would surely be worthy of TV's *Grand Designs*. They once more took to the fields at the old farm at Whitewell, and walked along Nant Carfan, crossing the road at Abernant to climb to the edge of the wood before arriving at Garnllywd for a break.

The next part of the walk was all uphill to Llanvithyn going through a newly cleared green lane (thanks to whoever cleared it!) and then over large fields and then downhill to reach the pretty village of Llantrithyd.

Climbing out of the village, they crossed a road and then passed ancient earthworks before joining the main road for the short walk back to the Red Lion, having enjoyed an attractive and pretty walk.

Many thanks to the Red Lion for the use of the car park and their hospitality.

Details of all Valeways free guided walks can be found at www.valeways.org.uk

JOHN TREBY

The Last Knight fails to Transform(er) into a worthwhile experience!

"MONOTONOUS, bloated, intelligence insulting, leaden, creatively bankrupt, overlong, migraine inducing, painful"– that's how this critic summed up the last Transformers film, *Age of Extinction*, back in 2014.

Yet having hoped the franchise would have faced extinction, three years later we're looking towards another film in the seemingly unstoppable juggernaut of the Transformers series, this one subtitled *The Last Knight*.

Picking up the threads of … *Extinction*, humans are at war with the Transformers, and Optimus Prime is gone. However, there is hope, as secrets from the time of King Arthur come to bear on the present, the history of the Transformers the key to the future of the world.

Cade Yeager (Mark Wahlberg), Bumblebee, Sir Edmund Burton (Anthony Hopkins) and Oxford professor Vivian Wembley (Laura Haddock) team up to solve the mystery and aim to restore peace to earth, but face a threat that could wipe out humanity...

"This guy's a genius, he really is. He's the same ilk as Oliver Stone and Spielberg and Scorsese. They're brilliant. Savants. I mean, he's a savant." That was Sir Anthony Hopkins discussing Transformers director Michael Bay, perhaps the most unlikely praise this side of Donald Trump giving kudos to Sadiq Khan.

Yet while Hopkins may have some merit in that statement (Bay's ability to push effects shots to the next level and to facilitate action on a ginormous scale is impressive, whichever way you look at it), you can't help but feel that this is a franchise where brains and logic are left at the door, with carnage, action and more carnage (created through a computer) the order of the day.

So it goes with *The Last Knight*, yet another preposterous entry into a series that has long since given up on common sense and plot, and instead just papers over the cracks with CGI Transformer smackdowns that leave you number than Amanda Holden's forehead.

It attempts to inject a treasure hunt vibe into proceedings (something about a coin from the past that will help the eponymous last knight find a staff that can stop otherwise-certain Armageddon) yet this plot is woolly at best, any attempts at trying to follow it are met with yet another fight between two robots (oh, the thrill!).

The franchise has grown darker and bleaker since Shia LaBeouf and Megan Fox first encountered the Transformers a decade ago, the fun fizz of that outing far removed from the world-ending soap-esque drama of this film (and indeed the even grimmer *Age of Extinction*); coupled with liberal profanities uttered by a robotic butler (voiced, somewhat incongruously, by Downton Abbey's Jim Carter) and you have a film, and indeed series, that is too violent and mature for youngsters, and far too idiotic and senseless to be enjoyed by an older audience.

Of course Michael Bay's action chops are without question, no matter how ridiculously OTT they are, and credit should be rightfully due to him for his use of technology to create such vivid sequences, but the complete lack of subtlety (and a sense of humour most would describe as 'unfunny') means that rather than be amazed, you'll simply be stupefied by the Bay-hem the director creates.

by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

If there is a glimmer of light it comes from the human performances – Mark Wahlberg hits his rhythm as the ridiculously-named Cade Yeager while Laura Haddock's equally-ridiculously-monikered Vivian Wembley (a most unlikely history professor, given her Hollywood glamour) not only gets a degree of characterisation (she struggles to find a man apparently; presumably all men are blind) but Haddock's performance gives a nice crackle of energy, particularly alongside Wahlberg.

The highlight of the film (and I dare say of the entire series so far) is Sir Anthony Hopkins' deliciously ridiculous and gloriously unhinged role as Sir Edmund Burton.

While it seems Hopkins' grasp of the film itself is as strong as mine ("You're not going to ask me to explain the plot are you?... I have to admit, I don't quite get all of it," he is quoted as saying) he attacks the film with the delicious gusto of a man enjoying a generous pay day while caring not a jot about what's going on around him.

Hopkins' vibrancy and lack of deference to the ludicrous material means that he is unquestionably superb in this role, and if only Bay had created a film where we followed him, and Wahlberg and Haddock to a lesser extent, and stripped away all the robotic nonsense, we'd have something vaguely interesting.

As it is, Michael Bay's fifth round of Transformers is yet more abysmal nonsense – if only the preposition of the subtitle were true as *The Last Knight* is a turgid and overblown mess.

VERDICT: If this film were titled *Hopkins: The Adventures of Sir Edmund Burton,* we could be talking positively; sadly, Sir Anthony's performance (and that of Mark Wahlberg and Laura Haddock) is the only good thing in a film that is pointless, ridiculous, lacking in subtlety and just plain messy. Will *Transformers: The Last Knight* live up to that billing? We can but hope. *Avoid at all costs*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Transformers: Age of Extinction* (2014), *Pacific Rim* (2013).

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The Vale is in a class of its own when it comes to eating out and seeing the sights

by PHILIP IRWIN

THE recent mini-heatwave has emphasised that summer is well and truly here, and thoughts will inevitably turn to the best way to spend free time over the coming months.

Whether you are a family, looking for things to do that will occupy children and teenagers, or simply a couple, of any age, wanting to enjoy some days out, you really are spoiled for choice in The GEM's circulation area!

One of the joys of running a community newspaper is that people and groups in your area constantly remind you of just how much is out there!

The GEM covers the Vale and Bridgend county borough, but that includes so much variety – from the seaside resort of Penarth to the east to another resort in the west (Porthcawl, of course).

They are two towns with a history of attracting people to the joys of the seaside, but with different ambiences.

Between those two towns runs the magnificent Heritage Coast, with its cliffs, bays and ever-changing scenery – all linked by the Wales Coastal Path.

Barry Island, of course, is on that coastal path but offers something more traditional, with people now making full use of the revamped funfair and the excellent beaches.

Moving inland from the Heritage Coast, you find so many places of interest, whether they are the charms of Cowbridge, with its Physic Garden, distinctive shops, and relaxed atmosphere, or Llantwit Major, where the olde-worlde streets lead to St Illtud's Church and the Galilee Chapel, which reminds visitors just how much history is contained in the town.

Head north from Porthcawl and you will soon find yourself in the valleys of the Llynfi, Garw or Ogmore – former mining valleys that are green now, and which boast some marvellous scenery.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

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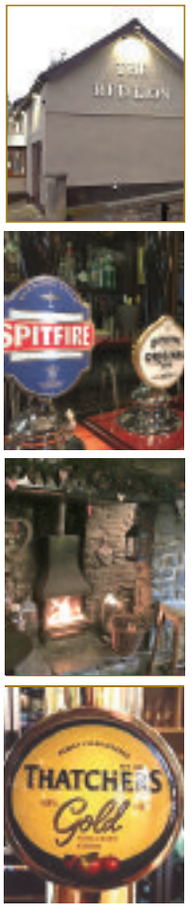

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Make the best use of your leisure this summer

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

This area has attracted a great deal of interest from cyclists, both from enthusiasts seeking to follow cycle trails that take them away from road traffic, to thrill seekers who head into the woods and hills to test themselves on BMX trails.

It should be obvious from the above that walkers are well catered for, but this writer would certainly want to put a good word in for Kenfig Nature Reserve, where the tall dunes stretch for miles – guaranteeing to tire out the most energetic child!

There are leisure parks aplenty in the area, and sports centres offering various activities over the summer months.

In fact, the council-sponsored brown road signs are plentiful these days, pointing the way to a wide variety of different places of interest.

The area is, of course, well catered for by golf courses, and so many courses welcome visitors these days.

What's more, quite a number of the courses welcome diners who have not been out on the course – Cottrell Park and Dinas Powys to name just two –and this only adds to the mix of eating establishments in the area.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

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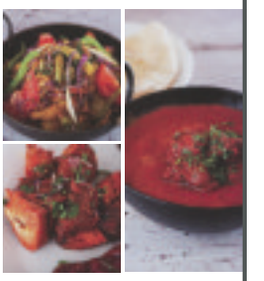

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Food & Leisure

A choice of venues to visit over the Summer months

So much that is family friendly around the Vale

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

On the subject of eating out, one real plus point of casting your eye around the Vale when you fancy dining out is the sheer range of culinary experiences on offer.

All the traditional boundaries between eating establishments faded away long ago.

There was a time, for instance, when restaurants were the destination of choice for fine dining, while pubs were the place to go for good old homely grub, with no fancy sauces or continental-style menus!

Pies, chips and gravy were the staples then, but the revolution in Masterchef-style cooking has thrown everything back into the mix.

Nowadays, if it is cutting edge cuisine that puts your saliva glands into overdrive, you will find chefs cooking with imagination and ambition in a wide range of venues.

What's more, as this revolution in cuisine has continued, there has been an overall raising of standards throughout the Vale as diners expect more when they eat out.

Whether you fancy, Italian, Oriental, barbecue, great steak, Indian, haute cuisine, tapas or simply hearty good value food, there is something for everyone in the area.

And all that competition has had another effect too. Prices remain keen as establishments seek to attract their valued customers.

Even better, here in the Vale and in Bridgend county borough, there are just so many different places to eat – and so many different styles of cooking to choose from.

Summer, of course, conjures up visions of alfresco food, and cold beers or wine as you bask in the sunshine after a productive and tiring day out seeing the sights.

Again, if you have children with you, so many pubs now have a beer garden – often with a playground as well.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

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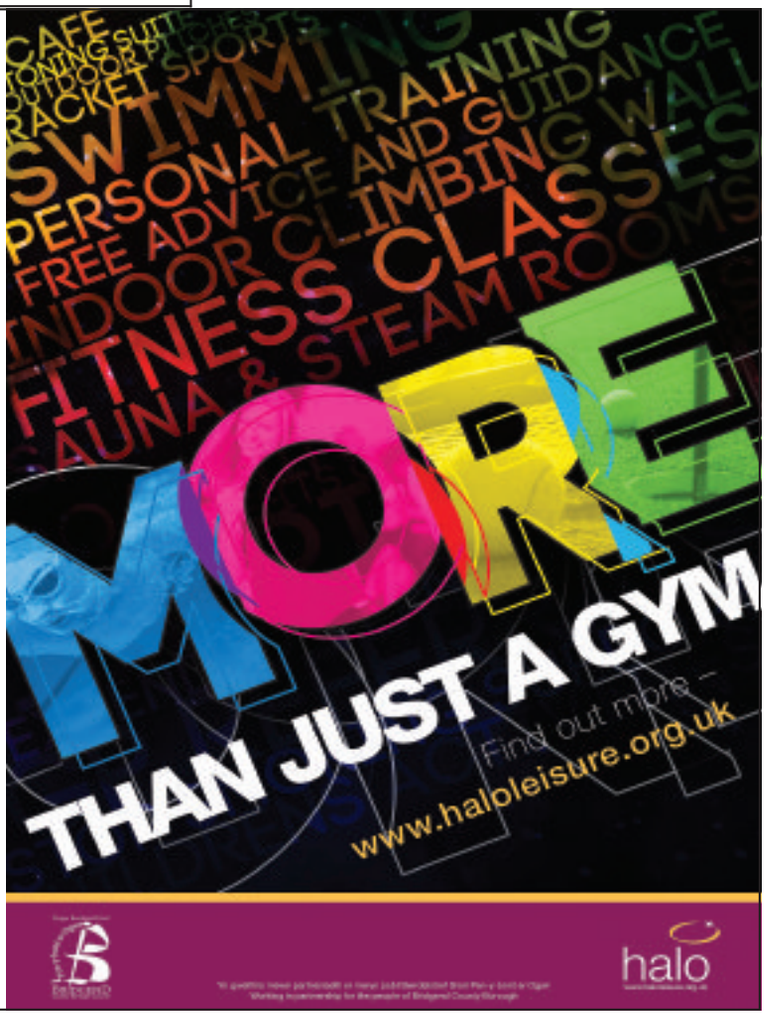


Andy Farquharson at the new-old bar.

A new bar – and a new broom – at Llancarfan's Fox and Hounds

ANDY Farquharson is a busy man. Not content with being in the Reserves, getting married a month ago and taking on a English Pointer pup next week, he is also the general manager of Llancarfan's Fox and Hounds during a partial refurb and at the launch on June 30 of Glamorgan Brewery's first lager.

Suffice to say, he has rather a lot on his plate.

The Fox and Hounds (*www.fandhllancarfan.co.uk)* has been one of the village's rocks for generations, and for incomer Andy, originally from Sussex by way of Cardiff University, one of the main draws of life in the rural Vale.

The reason for The GEM's visit is not for a meal *near* the bar, not even a for a refreshing half of something *from* the bar, but to look *at* the bar.

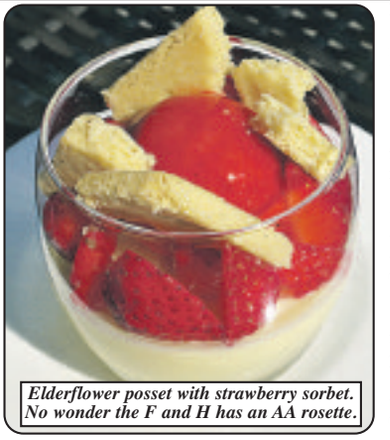
There is, admittedly, a reputation that some publishing staff have for bars. Jeffrey Bernard famously spent more time at one than with his family.

This bar is new, in an old sort of way.

Back in the mists of time, before the restaurant took up the whole of one part of the pub, a bar – with a corner of it forever known as 'Harry's Bar' – resplendently copper-fronted, was, after St Cadoc's church, the focal point, the heart of Llancarfan life.

Years later, a bar has been put back into place, and yet the restaurant still retains 50-54 covers and pleasant, covered terrace.

The management – the Fox and Hounds is owned by Coach House Inns, but is fiercely free-house and independent in operation – consists of Andy, and Jim and Rhiannon Dobson, head chef and head of front of house respectively.


Elderflower posset with strawberry sorbet. No wonder the F and H has an AA rosette.

"A great pub is a key element of village life," began Andy, "though a pub can't survive 'just' as a pub these days.

"It needs the holy trinity of every great pub, which is food, drink and reputation."

A scan through the menu immediately ticks one of these boxes.

"Seasonal and as locally-sourced as possible, and always freshly cooked," adds Andy, "with most meat being supplied by Rosedew Farm in Llantwit Major."

The light lunchtime dish of sage and onion Scotch egg leaps from the menu, as does the spiced lamb burger, with rosemary salt fries and harissa mayo.

The restaurant review can wait; this is a seriously fun menu that deserves taking family and friends to enjoy, especially as The Fox was recently awarded its first AA rosette.

Glamorgan Brewery, in Llantrisant, supplies a number of fine ales and the new lager, and all the other welcome beers, wines and spirits are also on offer, as well as a guest beer. Box number two ticked.

Reputation is trickier one.

"The Fox and Hounds is firmly family- and dog-friendly," assured the very affable Andy, who paused, smiled and nodded.

The canny reader will fill in the blanks, but the old adage of a new broom sweeping clean rings true.

Summer, autumn, winter or spring, Llancarfan's Fox and Hounds is one of those "must-visit" rural pubs.

And with eight en-suite guest rooms, enjoying a homeliness and style to rival a country hotel with a considerably more expensive tariff, why not stay a night or two?

The Fox and Hounds, Llancarfan, CF62 3AD www.fandhllancarfan.co.uk; 01446 781287; twitter.com/fandhllancarfan; facebook.com/fandhllancarfan.

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History, heritage, and hamlets – enjoy the Vale

ABOVE: The Heritage Coast has so many stunning views for walkers.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

There will, of course, be people who swear by foreign holidays, but the arrival of that new word 'staycation' indicates that more people are taking a much closer look at their own area, and opening their eyes to attractions they have missed for years.

It's best to stay away from politics, but the fall in he value of the pound relative to the Euro has influenced people in the UK, and it may well continue to do so.

This all means that local entrepreneurs who have backed their own judgement about how people will spend their leisure time are getting a well-deserved reward.

What's more, by backing these businessmen and women, you will be making your own contribution to employment in the area.

Take a good look around the Vale and Bridgend county borough. Whatever your field of interest, be it history, walking, photography, sport, or simply relaxation in general, there are so many possibilities.

One final point to be noted. I've extolled the many wonderful walks to be found along the Heritage Coast.

It's stating the obvious to say don't get too close to cliff edges, and watch your dog if it is likely to suddenly just run off in a hurry.

More important, if you are tempted to walk along the seashore, is to check the tide times.

We have brilliant RNLI teams at Penarth, Barry and Porthcawl, as well as the Coastguard.

They are busy enough without dozy walkers getting cut off!

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Labour MP's 'money tree' claim is dismissed by the Secretary of State

OGMORE MP, Chris Elmore has criticised the Prime Minister following the Conservative and DUP deal struck this week.

The deal, which gives the Conservative government support in the House of Commons, is in exchange for more money for Northern Ireland.

Chris Elmore, the Labour MP for Ogmore, said: "This deal will cost the tax payer £1.5 billion. That's £15 per UK tax payer for a political party that most had no option to vote for!

"The Tories appear to have found their money tree to cling on to power, but when funding the NHS, or increasing our police forces, there's not a penny to be found."

According to Mr Elmore, the deal means that Wales "loses another £1.4 billion in public money as the Barnet formula will be forgotten for the deal".

The move, he said, has come under fierce criticism from all over the political spectrum with First Minister Carwyn Jones saying the move was "an outrageous straight bung."

The deal will apply for five years but will be reviewed at the end of the current session in two years' time.

However, Secretary of State for Wales, Alun Cairns, said: "Today's agreement demonstrates that we can work together in the interest of the whole United Kingdom to give us the certainty we need as we depart from the European Union.

"For decades, people complained about 'underfunding for Wales', but I resolved that in December with a funding floor agreed with the Welsh Government.

"Wales currently gets £120 for every £100 spent in England. The funding announced today for Northern Ireland – which faces unique circumstances and specific challenges – is the sort of positive intervention that the UK Government has already made across different parts of the UK to support economic growth, for example through City Deals for Swansea and Cardiff.

"We are working hard to deliver a growth deal for North Wales and I will make sure that Wales continues to receive direct investment from the UK Government to support economic growth in the future."

TRIBUTES ARE PAID TO TONY AND FAITH WILLIAMS

WARM tributes have been paid to former Vale councillor Tony Williams and his wife Faith. who died recently.

Coun Tony Williams MBE.

Last week, the Vale Council issued the following statement: "It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of former Vale councillor, AJ (Tony) Williams MBE and his wife, Faith, on Sunday, June 18, tragically in their garden in Welsh St Donats.

"Tony Williams represented the Peterston Super Ely ward of the Vale Council up until his retirement from local government and the council in 2007.

"It was a ward that he had represented since the creation of the Vale Council as an administrative body in 1974, having previously served as a councillor and chairman on the former Cardiff Rural District Council.

"He was extremely interested in planning and environmental matters and was a key founder of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast.

"During his time as a councillor he represented his ward on the planning committee, held the post of planning committee chairman as well as cabinet member with responsibility for planning matters.

"He represented the authority on the board of Cardiff Bay Development Corporation and on the South Wales Provincial Council.

"Tony was also a former Mayor and Deputy Leader of the council throughout his long and distinguished career.

"He was recognised in the New Year's Honours List in 2004, when he was awarded an MBE for services to local government and conservation in the Vale."

Dr Ruth Williams, Tony and Faith's daughter, said: "Dad had many happy memories and anecdotes of his 48 years of continuous service to the community and had a detailed knowledge of every part of the Vale.

"Their home was frequently the 'nerve centre' of campaigns such as 'Stop the Super Quarry' in the 1970s.

"Mum supported Dad in every way, not least when she was Deputy Mayoress and then Mayoress during the opening of the Civic Offices in 1981.

"She organised and catered for functions in the Mayor's Parlour herself, and dignitaries from other organisations were keen to be invited once they tasted her food!

"Mum instigated the annual Mayor's Charity Ball and the Mayoress' charity coffee mornings. They were a terrific team and always proud ambassadors for the Vale Council."

Former Vale Council Leader Jeff James said Tony and Faith had been dear friends and that Tony had given decades of service to the Vale.

"Before the Vale Council, Tony served on Cardiff Rural District Council, which took in part of the Vale and some of the outskirts of Cardiff.

"My father served on that council and they were contemporaries."

In 1979, Jeff was elected to the Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council later to become the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council, and he got to know Tony well.

"He was a prominent member of that council as Mayor, and chair of planning – he was responsible for the purchase of Penarth Dock which was up for sale for £2.1million. It was a tremendous deal. Part of it was developed into Penarth Marina.

"When I became Vale Council Leader in 1999 the first person I turned to was Tony. I asked him to be my deputy.

"He always gave wise council and had a turn of phrase for every occasion – some went down in council folklore.

"He was very active in the community and the Vale – always wanting to take things forward.

"Faith was by his side at all times. At Mayor's events Faith did wonderful cooking assisted by their daughter Ruth."

Jeff added that Tony Williams had also given great service as president of the Vale of Glamorgan Conservative Association.

The current Vale Council Leader, Coun John Thomas, expressed his shock and sadness at the news.

"My sympathies and condolences go to Tony and Faith's daughter, Dr Ruth Williams, at her sad loss.

"Tony devoted considerable time and commitment to the Vale Council and I had the honour and privilege of working alongside him since joining the council in 1999.

"Tony was the elder statesman providing valuable support and advice to myself as a new and inexperienced councillor. Both he and Faith will be sadly missed but fondly remembered."

Rob Thomas, managing director at the Vale Council, commented: "I was shocked to hear of the sad passing of Tony and Faith Williams.

"I worked closely with Tony Williams since joining the council in 1996 and up to his retirement in 2007, and through Tony got to know his wife, Faith.

"Tony was always at the forefront of the work of the council in ensuring that the Vale was protected from inappropriate development.

"He was also extremely supportive of the work of officers and on a personal level both supported me and gave me valuable advice during my early career with the council.

"My thoughts are with Dr Ruth Williams at this very difficult time."

A police spokesman has said the deaths are not being treated as suspicious.

Gladstone pupils and staff Race For Life!

FOR many years, female staff at Gladstone Primary School have taken part in Race for Life to raise funds for Cancer Research.

This year, the children decided they wanted to get involved too, so on June 16, all children and staff at Gladstone Primary School took part in a special Gladstone Race for Life where they ran, walked or jogged around the school field.

Children wore pink, blue or white and some even ran in fancy dress. All received a medal at the end.

The Gladstone Enterprise Team coordinated the whole event. Its members designed sponsorship forms, the shape of the running track and posters, and promoted the event in a school assembly.

Each year group ran a stall full of goodies to sell, made during the school's 'Enterprise Week' last month. Morrisons donated ingredients for year 3's cupcake stall and Tesco donated fruit for year 4's smoothies. The sponsor money is still coming into school. The total – profit from the stalls and sponsor money – raised so far is just under £2,000, all of which will go to Cancer Research.

"The event was a huge success, the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and we hope to make this an annual event.

"We would like to thank Morrisons and Tesco for their kind donations and all our Gladstone families and friends for their generosity," said Clare Jones, KS2 coordinator and event organiser.

Lily in the pink as she celebrates her 104th birthday!

Lily Collier was visited by Alun Cairns on her 104th birthday.

LILY Collier, who lives in Barry, recently celebrated her 104th birthday with close friends and family at her home on Cardiff Road.

Mrs Collier has lived in the town since the 1940s where she and her late husband raised their two children.

Attending the birthday celebrations were numerous friends and family, and local MP Alun Cairns.

Mr Cairns said: "It was truly fascinating to hear of the changes Lily had seen in Barry over the 70 years that she has lived here. It was clear from the warmth with which she speaks of Barry that this is a town that she holds very dear in her heart. It was a privilege to share her company as part of her birthday celebrations."

Despite her 104 years, Mrs Collier is very independent with a booming social life, which includes a trip to the bingo three or four times per week. When she is not socialising, Mrs Collier mostly enjoys spending time with her close-knit family, including her three great-grandchildren.

Rotary stages great Barry duck race

FAMILIES looking for a fun-filled day out at the start of the school holidays should check out the annual Rotary Club of Barry duck race, which promises thrills and spills as the ducks race to glory alongside a great range of entertainment at Knap Park and Lake on Saturday, July 22.

A regular feature of the Rotary Club fundraising events calendar this will be the first time the duck race has been held at the Knap and promises to be the biggest and best yet.

There will be the regular hotly-contested seven duck races; the top placed ducks from each of the first six races going through to the final race of the day. Winners of each heat will receive a cash prize of £10 and the overall winners will pick up £50.

To add to the entertainment, there will be traditional activities such as a coconut shy, craft and cake stalls plus a host of stalls provided by other local organisations.

Ducks for each race will cost just £1 and can be bought in advance from Rotarians who will be at ASDA on July 8, Morrisons on July 15 and the Knap on the big day as well.

Barry Rotary president elect, Jill Osborne said, "The duck race has been a great fundraiser for us for quite a few years, but this year we have decided to push the boat out and move it to a more accessible and popular part of town.

"We have also changed the format to create a summer fete by bringing in more things for people to see and do and to provide a showcase for lots of local groups and charity fundraisers."

The duck race team still have a few spaces available for any local clubs or businesses that want to take part and should get in touch with David Jakeway by email on davidjakeway @outlook.com or call 01446 400246 or 07919 470499.

Proceeds from the duck race will be used by Barry Rotary Club to support local causes including Kids Out and the Vale Foodbank.

Work continues at cemetery

PENARTH Town Council says it has been working hard to bring Penarth Cemetery grounds up to the best possible standard this summer.

A spokesman said: "Grass-cutting and pruning have been taking place for the past few weeks to ensure that the seven-acre site is as safe and best-presented it can be.

"A new noticeboard will soon be displayed, detailing the cutting schedule for the grounds and to inform visitors of any funerals due to take place."

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NEWS FROM BARRY ASTRONOMY SOCIETY

The Moon gets a red neighbour!

FINDING darkness in July is a real challenge for astronomers. The skies are so light this month, would you believe some of us can't wait for winter to return!

You can still put your binoculars to good use by focusing on the Moon; in particular, Mare Crisium (Sea of Crises, named before the invention of the telescope when we thought these areas were really just like the oceans on Earth).

The area can be seen with the naked eye and is best when the Moon is a crescent (around the first and last few days of July).

It may help if you think of the Moon as a clock face. Mare Crisium would be at about the two o'clock position. It is quite small compared to other lunar seas, but is still an impressive 500km in diameter and covers an area about 170,000 square kilometres. It also stands out because, unlike the majority of similar features, it stands isolated.

The Soviets crash-landed Luna 15 in 1969 and then had Luna 24 return with a soil sample from the area in the 1970s.

July is a good month to watch for noctilucent clouds. They are only seen during June and July. The highest clouds known, they are at least 80 km high yet, if visible, will be low down towards the north-west horizon.

They are only seen when the Sun is at least 10 degrees below the horizon and never seen in daytime.

They have been described as having a herring-bone pattern or bands containing long streaks. It is best to initially locate them with the naked eye, then use binoculars (but remember the Sun must be below the horizon before a search commences).

The cause of such clouds is unknown, but may be due to ice crystals forming on meteoric dust.

On July 6, the Moon lies close to the planet Saturn. Binoculars may be enough to indicate the object is not stellar, but you will really need a telescope to see its magnificent system of rings.

At present, the Cassini spacecraft is diving in and out of the rings and it has sent back much information about this gas giant, including very interesting data on a couple of Saturn's moons.

For example, Titan may have some sort of atmosphere, Enceladus could have a liquid ocean. These are very exciting times for planetary exploration!

Now for the stars. This month, three bright stars stand out, Deneb, Vega, and Altair. These three are the brightest stars in their respective constellations.

Deneb in Cygnus is so far away we don't see it as it is today but as it was in Roman times. It appears white and is equal to about 60,000 of our Suns.

Vega in the Lyra constellation is more bluish in colour and is a mere 50 times as luminous as our Sun.

Altair in the Eagle constellation is the closest of the three and about 15 light-years away. (Light travels 186,000 miles a second.)

Stars that make up constellations are not really associated with each other. The shapes were made out by our ancestors and are simply line of sight effects.

All the stars have their own individual, proper motion, but because of the vast distances between them and Earth we don't see them moving. If it were possible to come back and view the night sky in about 50,000 years, most of the shapes recognisable now would be different.

If you have a good southern horizon, look for the star Antares. The brightest star in the constellation of Scorpius, it is such a shame that, due to its sky position, the constellation never rises high enough in the UK to be a 'showstopper'.

Antares is also known as the rival of Mars due to the redness of its colour. In fact, it is a red-supergiant star, at least 6,000 times the power of our own star (the Sun), and lies over 300 light-years away. Binoculars will show the colour well. The Moon lies close to it on July 5.

On the website, there is more information on the night sky, as well as seeing some pictures taken by our society member at www.barryastronomical.wordpress.com.

DAVE POWELL

Child's 999 call to RNLI saves friends' lives

TWO children being swept out to sea on Sunday afternoon, June 25, were rescued by Penarth RNLI lifeboat.

One of their friends had alerted emergency services by dialling 999.

On a day of strong winds, the two boys, around 12 years of age, were blown out to sea on discarded floating construction bags they had found near Penarth Pier.

A Penarth RNLI lifeboat spokesman explained: "The two boys pushed out to sea and boarded them, but very quickly were taken out to sea by offshore winds.

"Their friend realised they were in difficulty and called 999 to ask for the coastguard.

"Our D-class lifeboat launched very quickly after the initial crew page at 2.08pm.

"The two boys were brought back to shore, safe and well, but wet and cold. They were warmed up in the station with showers, blankets, drinks and chocolate, and spoken to by colleagues from Penarth Coastguard Rescue Team.

"The boys were lucky that their friend quickly called 999. With the offshore breeze, the boys were quickly heading out to sea, and time in this rescue was absolutely critical.

"Of course, they had no life jackets available, and only thin summer clothes on. The water in the Bristol Channel remains cold through most of the year.

"We would urge parents to ensure that their children know the risks of playing near or on the sea, especially with any type of inflatable."

Jason Dunlop, lifeboat operations manager for Penarth RNLI station, added: "We are so grateful that this rescue had such a positive outcome. Our crews responded quickly and we were able to bring about a rapid rescue of the children.

"Had they been in the water for much longer, or drifted further, the outcome could well have been more serious."

Action group keeps issue in spotlight

As reported in The GEM last week, the Docks Incinerator Action Group recently undertook a walk from Barry Island funfair to the biomass plant on Woodham Road. The walk was to mark 'National Clean Air Day', but also to highlight concerns about the plant. Here, the group is shown after arriving at Woodham Road.

A spokesman said: "Some members of the group were surprised at how large the incinerator is when you are close up to it."

KITES ABOVE THE KNAP AT SKYFEST

Photo by Martin Gibson.

SKYFEST, which was held at The Knap last week, proved a great success.

Spokesman Glyn Pooley said: "The weather was amazing, warm and windy. The children had a great time making their kites and we managed to get more than 80 kites up in the air.

"The council were there from 3pm making kites, I left at 8.30pm and people were still flying and playing African drums.

"We were also joined by Peter Gamble from 'A Handful of Hats,' who entertained with his unique bicycle flying machine that played music and left a shower of bubbles behind him – the children loved it.

"It was without doubt our biggest kite festival to date, and it was nice to see people from all ages and all kinds of backgrounds coming together to celebrate in the great outdoors."

Barry Rail Centre break-in 'senseless' – AM

SOUTH Wales Central AM Andrew RT Davies has expressed his shock and anger that vandals have caused severe damage to a new museum scheduled to open at Barry Rail Centre.

Mr Davies, whose South Wales Central region includes Barry, said the "senseless damage" could have put the project in jeopardy, and he urged anyone who may know anything about the incident to come forward.

As well as throwing paint over the vehicles, the vandals also smashed windows and windscreens and stole a number of railway artefacts.

Mr Davies has visited the centre in the past and said his thoughts were with manager John Buxton and his team of volunteers who run the operation.

He said he hoped those responsible for the damage were caught, and that the museum would be able to open as soon as possible.

Mr Davies said: "Having visited Barry Rail Centre in the past, it is clear John and his team do a fantastic job and it is a real asset to Barry and the Vale.

"Sadly, the actions of a few mindless idiots have the potential to push things back significantly, and that is hugely disappointing.

"I'd urge anyone with any information about what happened to come forward so that those responsible can be brought to justice. Meanwhile, my thoughts are with John and his team, who I know are working exceptionally hard to get things back up and running as soon as possible."

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Wife pays tribute to 'The love of my life'

THE family of a motorcyclist who died following a collision on the B4268 in the Vale on Saturday afternoon, have paid a loving tribute to him.

Fifty-two-year-old Andy Beynon, from Llanelli, died at the scene of the collision involving his motorcycle and a Land Rover Freelander, which occurred between Pentre Meyrick Cross and Llysworney shortly after 1.55pm on Saturday, June 24.

His wife Dawn said: "Andy was the love of my life. We met when we were both teenagers and have been happily married for last 32 years.

"He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother – a family man – with many, many friends.

"He dedicated his time to help others and work tirelessly helping children with exceptional special needs.

"He always wanted them to be happy and was happier in the background doing all the hard work, organising and fundraising to allow others to enjoy the spotlight. The children utterly adored him – he just had that 'special gift' to make them smile.

Andy Beynon was a man with a 'giant heart' who helped children with special needs.

"He always had a smile on his face and had a wickedly fun sense of humour, playing practical jokes whenever he could as he loved winding people up. He just had a giant heart and always wanted to give and never receive.

"Andy lost his life enjoying one of his many pleasures – riding his motorcycle. He was out that day giving his free time to teach others how to become a better rider. That was my Andy.

"We are all heartbroken as a family and our world will never be the same. We take comfort knowing that we all have such happy memories of how he lived his life and they will stay with us forever.

"We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the emergency services who attended the scene for all their efforts that day."

South Wales Police is continuing to investigate the collision and any witnesses who have not yet spoken to an officer are urged to contact 101, quoting reference 1700243818.

Penarth walker returns

Photo by Dan Green.

Local children meet Richard with a welcome banner and walk the last few hundred metres to Plassey Square with him.

RICHARD Parry, who took part in the Eden Project's Great Big Walk to raise awareness of loneliness and the importance of connected communities, was reunited with his family in Penarth on Sunday at a Big Lunch celebration in Plassey Square to mark his homecoming.

The three-week Great Big Walk culminated in the Great Get Together, an event created by the Jo Cox Foundation and Eden Project communities to 'celebrate community togetherness and end loneliness'.

Richard, who walked back to Penarth from the late MP's constituency in Batley in Yorkshire said: "One of the aims of these events is to combat loneliness, which is increasing not only in the elderly but also teenagers and new parents too.

"Events that bring people together, break down barriers, and help reduce the problem of social isolation, are invaluable."

Representing the group of residents from Plassey Square Community View, who organised the event, Zoe Lincoln, said: "The Big Lunch we organised last year was such a success we wanted to do it again. It's a fantastic opportunity to get to know our neighbours build a stronger sense of community and it makes our area a nicer place to live because more people will smile and say hello.

"This year it was extra special, welcoming Richard home to our community get-together.

"The children even made a giant banner and walked the last few hundred metres home with him."

ABOVE: Cutting the ribbon are Vale Mayor, Coun Janice Charles, and Barry Town Mayor, Coun Nic Hodges.

NEWLY-DEVELOPED GARDENS ARE OPENED

CEMETERY Approach Gardens have been officially opened by representatives of Barry Town Council and the Vale Council, following work funded jointly by them

The first phase of the project has seen the area transformed into an accessible open space for people to use by introducing new landscaping, fencing, seating, planting and paving.

Since 2015, the town and county councils have worked in partnership to improve the previously derelict site, with an initial sum of £550,000 invested in the scheme.

The public was asked what the new area should be called and 'Cemetery Approach Gardens' emerged as the preferred choice.

The Vale Council will transfer the land to Barry Town Council in the form of a long-term lease.

Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery already has Green Flag status, and it is hoped the gardens can achieve a similar accolade in the future.

Coun Bronwen Brooks, Leader of Barry Town Council said: "I am delighted that, by working in partnership with the Vale Council, we have developed this exciting scheme, which will bring a neglected site back into use for the residents of Barry.

"I look forward to seeing people using these gardens in a much-loved area of Barry and also the gateway to Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery."

AS

Cancer Research football fundraiser inspired by Marie

PEOPLE in the Vale are invited to attend a fundraising event for Cancer Research at Barry Football Club on Saturday, July 8, kick off 2pm.

A spokeswoman for the event said: "Jonny Martyn and friends are arranging a fundraiser in memory of loved ones who have lost their lives to cancer.

"Jonny has been inspired by his late mother, Marie Martyn, who was a well-known character in Barry.

"She was known for her big smile and warm heart and was passionate about fundraising for charities that were close to her heart.

"At the age of 70, she completed her first skydive and the money she raised went to a local mental health charity that supported people to live independently.

"As a result of the publicity around her skydive in The GEM, Marie's story was later told in Chat Magazine, highlighting the work she did for local charities.

"The event on July 8 will feature lots of local football teams."

The spokeswoman added: "Lots of activities are being arranged and it is an event for all the family to enjoy. We want to help raise money for an incredible cause."

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

'It's a blast!' say budding Sully female engineers

PUPILS from Sully Primary School have had an insight into what it's like to be at the forefront of an engineering career after spending the day at Tarmac's Aberthaw cement quarry in celebration of 'International Women in Engineering Day' on June 23.

Alun Cairns MP, Tarmac Aberthaw quarry manager Nicola Bartholomey and Sully Primary pupils Eleanor Bradbury (age 10) and Niamh McKee (age nine).

The event, which was attended by Vale MP Alun Cairns, was held to celebrate the diverse range of engineering and technical careers available to women and was led by the plant's quarry manager, Nicola Bartholomey.

Year-4 and 5 pupils learnt about the history of the quarry site and the work done at the plant. They also learned about the importance of safety and the hidden dangers that can be present, such as cold, deep water, before learning about the ways in which cement is transported across the UK, paying particular attention to road safety.

One pupil to take part in the event was pupil Eleanor Bradbury (10), who said: "It was a really interesting day – I had no idea of the different careers and jobs that make up working at a plant like Aberthaw.

"It was great to hear Nicola's story as to how she came to become the quarry manager and it gave me food for thought."

Nicola has been involved in the quarrying industry for 15 years and had her first taste of the industry after working in a laboratory testing concrete and aggregates. Collecting samples from quarries, she watched her first blast and knew it was the career path she wanted to follow.

She was appointed Aberthaw quarry manager in 2013.

Nicola said: "We are delighted to welcome pupils from Sully Primary and give them an insight into what a career in engineering can involve.

"Managing the quarry is exciting day in, day out and I hope that everyone has been able to have an insight into life here. I am passionate about championing women in engineering so it is always a pleasure to meet and to try to inspire young women to become tomorrow's engineers."

Set up in 2014 by the Women's Engineering Society to celebrate its 95th anniversary, International Women in Engineering Day focuses attention on careers in engineering and technical roles.

Mr Cairns said: "As the United Kingdom opens its doors to a world of opportunities, it is vital that our younger generations are equipped with the education and skills that they need to take on the world of work and industry.

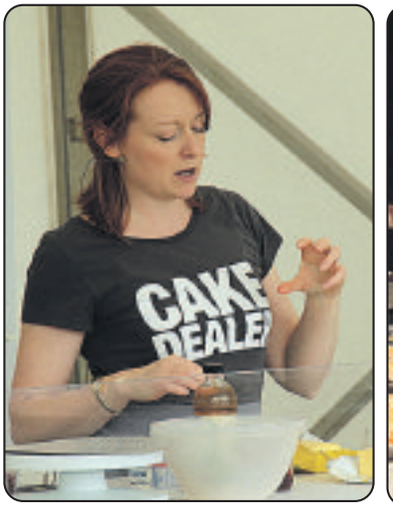
"Engineering is key to this country's future and therefore must be encouraged amongst children of all ages and backgrounds, who show interest in this industry."

Food, music and fun in Barry as the council stages its Eats, Beats and Treats weekend

PHOTOGRAPHS by JODIE REDBOURNE
@belowandaboveproductions (Facebook)

BARRY Island was buzzing last weekend as the Vale Council staged its 'Eats, Beats and Treats' weekend.

With street food from a wide variety of suppliers, cooking demonstrations, crafy stalls and musical entertainment from choirs to singer-songwriters, it made for a great day out.



Welsh Tory leader gets on his bike for Leonard Cheshire!

Andrew RT Davies (wearing braces) and Neil Heslop with the Tour de Cymru cyclists.

LEADER of the Welsh Conservatives and Assembly Member for South Wales Central Andrew RT Davies opened up the 'Senedd Tour de Cymru' with Leonard Cheshire Disability's Chief Executive, Neil Heslop.

Leonard Cheshire Disability is the UK's largest voluntary sector provider of care services for disabled people and is the UK's leading charity supporting disabled people. It provides over 200 different services that support disabled people to live independent lives, including seven residential and supported living services in Wales.

The Senedd Tour de Cymru is the second element of Leonard Cheshire Disability's campaign to highlight the value of sport and social activities for disabled people in Wales.

The first element consisted of a team of cyclists travelling from Anglesey to Gwent, covering an impressive 350 miles in five days and visiting all Leonard Cheshire Disability Services in Wales over the course of the journey. Events which took place along the route raised over £10,000 which will enable disabled people to have access to adapted sports and physiotherapy equipment, and access to sporting events in the local area.

The third and final element of the Leonard Cheshire Disability campaign will be a static bike ride at the Royal Welsh Show.

Andrew RT Davies said: "I was delighted to be asked to sponsor the Senedd Tour de Cymru event. Having visited Leonard Cheshire's Danybryn site in Radyr, I have been fortunate enough to see first-hand the excellent services and care provided there.

"It was great to have the opportunity to catch up with residents and members of the Leonard Cheshire team here in the Senedd and hear about the success of the campaign so far.

"The Leonard Cheshire team, residents and volunteers have done a fantastic job in pulling this together and I wish them continued success as they take the campaign to the Royal Welsh Show in July."

Vale electorate invited to Parliament

VALE MP Alun Cairns is inviting residents of Barry and the wider Vale to join him in Parliament for an exclusive tour of one of the world's most iconic government buildings.

The visit will be Vale residents' first opportunity to visit Parliament since the re-opening of Parliament following the momentous General Election.

The trip will be taking place on July 7. For further details, Mr Cairns' office can be contacted on 01446 403814 or alun.cairns.mp@parliament.uk.

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

QUEENIE'S LIFE 'SHOWS WHY OWNERS SHOULD NEUTER NOW'

A LEADING feline welfare charity is urging cat owners to get their cats snipped or spayed as soon as possible saying it is the most effective way of controlling the numbers of unwanted cats and kittens.

The importance of neutering cats was highlighted on a recent case the Bridgend Cat Adoption Centre dealt with. Volunteers came across a multi-cat household of over 20 cats, many of which were un-neutered and in very poor condition.

The centre admitted 12 cats from the household including Queenie, an eight-month-old female, emaciated and suffering with severe flu, she could barely stand and wasn't expected to survive.

Ushi and Ursa had a severely damaged eye each due to untreated cat flu and needed surgery to remove the damaged eyes.

Sue Dobbs, centre manager said: "It was very upsetting for the staff and volunteers at the centre to see the conditions these cats were kept in and how much they were suffering.

"The simple act of neutering the cats would have stopped this heartbreaking situation arising in the first place and prevented a lot of unnecessary suffering.

"Queenie has proved to be a little fighter, the difference in her in three weeks is amazing, and she is expected to make a good recovery. Ushi and Ursa are also making an excellent progress, and are much happier in themselves."

The charity believes that population control for cats is vital, as felines are prolific breeders.

As one unneutered female cat could produce up to 18 kittens a year, or 20,000 descendants over five years, owners who do not neuter their cats may unwittingly be contributing to more cats being abandoned in the future.

Cats Protection recommends that cats and kittens are neutered from around four months of age. Veterinary practices that neuter cats from four months of age can be found at www.cats.org.uk/what-we-do/neutering.

Anyone interested in adopting a cat should call the centre on 01656 724396 or visit www.bridgend.cats.org.uk

Queenie when admitted...

... and on the road to recovery!

Council agrees 'improvement objectives' for 2017-18

THE Vale Council's *Improvement Plan Part 1: Improvement Objectives 2017-18* was agreed at a meeting of the Council's Cabinet on June 19.

Rob Thomas, managing director, said: "We have a statutory duty to set specific improvement objectives each year and set targets against these objectives in order to drive improvements in areas that are important to us and citizens.

"Eight improvement objectives have been set this year, informed by the council's corporate plan, our annual corporate self-assessment, our annual service planning process, reports from our external regulators, as well as consultations taken over the past two years."

The 'Improvement Objectives', as taken from the document published by the Vale Council, are: reducing poverty and social exclusion; providing decent homes and safe communities; promoting regeneration, economic growth and employment; promoting sustainable development and protecting the environment; raising overall standards of achievement; valuing culture and diversity; encouraging and promoting active and healthy lifestyles; safeguarding those who are vulnerable and promoting independent living; delivering the Council's 'transformational change programme', called Reshaping Services, to enable it to meet the future needs of citizens within what is described as 'the context of unprecedented financial challenges'.

The 2017-18 Improvement Objectives, including the rationale for selecting these, can be viewed on the council's website.

The plan is available at all council office reception areas and libraries, and residents can propose new improvement objectives or make comments on existing ones by emailing *improvements@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk*

CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

GORCHYMYN CAU FFORDD DROS DRO, ADRAN 16A DEDDF RHEOLEIDDIO TRAFFIG FFYRDD 1984

PENARTH TÂN GWYLLT A GWYL

DYDD GWENER 14 A DYDD SADWRN 15 GORFFENNAF 2017

RHODDIR HYSBYSIAD DRWY HYN fod Cyngor Bro Morgannwg gyda chydsyniad Gweinidogion Cymru wedi gwneud gorchymyn dan Adrannau 16A Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 fel a ganlyn:-

Yn ystod oriau penodol o'r diwrnod ac ar y dyddiad a nodir yng ngholofn 1 Atodlen 1 caiff y strydoedd neu'r rhannau o'r strydoedd a nodir yng ngholofn 2 yr atodlen honno eu defnyddio i gynnal digwyddiad perthnasol fel y disgrifir yn Adran 16(A) (1) Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984, mae'r Cyngor yn unol â'r pwerau a ddyfernir iddo dan Adran 16A Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 yn **GORCHYMYN AC YN CYFEIRIO** er mwyn hwyluso'r gwaith o gynnal y digwyddiad, galluogi'r cyhoedd i wylio'r digwyddiad hwnnw ac i leihau ar unrhyw effaith ar draffig a achosir gan y digwyddiad, gydymffurfiaeth â'r rheoliad canlynol:-

CYFYNGIR, ac eithrio i'r hyn y darperir ar ei gyfer yn y gorchymyn, y defnydd o'r strydoedd neu'r rhannau o'r strydoedd a nodir i'r holl draffig cerbydau, gan gynnwys beiciau pedal, ac eithrio i Gerbydau'r Gwasanaethau Brys (gan gynnwys criw cwch achub wedi'i alw allan), rhwng yr oriau a nodir yng ngholofn 3 o'r atodlen a nodir.

Y gosb am dorri'r rheoliad yw dirwy hyd at £1000.00.

SCHEDULE

Colofn 1	Colofn 2	Colofn 3
O Ddydd Gwener 14 Gorffennaf 2017 Tan Nos Sadwrn 15 Gorffennaf 2017	**The Esplanade, Cliff Hill a Cliff** ar eu hyd	O 3.00pm dydd Gwener 14 Gorffennaf 2017 Tan 6.00pm dydd Sadwrn 15 Gorffennaf 2017

Bydd Arwyddion i'r Gwyriad a Mynediad i Gerddwyr ar waith

Dyddiedig 29 Mehefin 2017

M. E. Punter
Cyfarwyddwr Amgylchedd a Thai
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg
Depo'r Alpau
Gwenfô, CF5 6AA

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE ORDER, SECTION 16A ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

PENARTH FIREWORKS AND FESTIVAL

FRIDAY 14th AND SATURDAY 15th JULY 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Vale of Glamorgan Council have made an order under Section 16A Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as follows:-

WHEREAS during certain hours of the day and date specified in column 1 of Schedule 1 hereto the streets or part thereof listed in column 2 of the said schedule will be used for the holding of a relevant event as described in Section 16(A)(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the Council, pursuant to the powers conferred by Section 16A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 do **HEREBY ORDER AND DIRECT** in order to facilitate the holding of the event, enable members of the public to watch the said event and to reduce the disruption to traffic likely to be caused by the event the following regulation shall be observed:-

THAT, except as provided by the order, the said streets or parts thereof shall be closed to all vehicular traffic including pedal cycles with the exception of all Emergency Services Vehicles (including called out lifeboat crew), and Designated Event Vehicles, between the hours specified in column 3 of the said schedule.

The penalty for infringement of the said regulation is a fine not exceeding £1000.00.

SCHEDULE

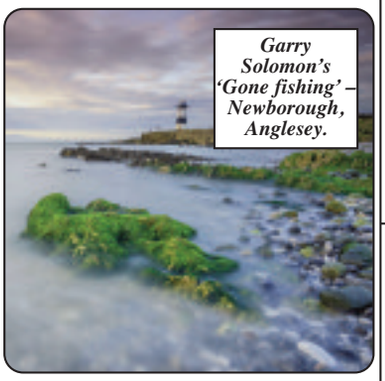
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
From Friday14th July 2017 Until Saturday 15th July 2017	**The Esplanade, Cliff Hill and Cliff Road** throughout their lengths,	From 3.00pm on Friday 14th July 2017 Until 6.00pm on Saturday 15th July 2017

Local Signed Diversions and Pedestrian Access shall be in place

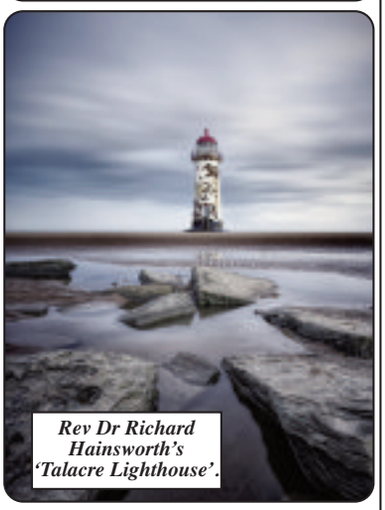
Dated this 29th day of June 2017

M. E. Punter
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council
The Alps Depot
Wenvoe CF5 6AA

Have you taken a prize-winning maritime photo?



Garry Solomon's 'Gone fishing' – Newborough, Anglesey.



Rev Dr Richard Hainsworth's 'Talacre Lighthouse'.

THE National maritime charity, the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society, is calling on amateur and professional photographers to submit images celebrating Britain's proud maritime heritage, for its annual competition searching for the UK's ultimate sea view.

Launched to mark national Seafarers Awareness Week (June 24–30), the competition, sponsored by Inmarsat, encourages amateur and professional photographers to enter pictures which best encapsulate Britain's enduring connection with the sea – its merchant ships, fishermen, coast, harbours and ports.

Photographs should be submitted through the Society's website *www.shipwreckedmarine rs.org.uk* before the deadline on Friday, August 4.

Photographers can also enter their pictures via email, post or the Society's social media channels.

The competition will be judged by a panel of experts, including Sunday Times Picture Editor, Ray Wells, Amateur Photographer Magazine Features Writer, Oliver Atwell, Picture Editor of the i, Sophie Batterbury and the Chief Executive of the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society, Commodore Malcolm Williams.

Shipwrecked Mariners' Society chief executive, Commodore Malcolm Williams, said: "The competition has gone from strength to strength over the last four years, seeing a record number of entries in 2016, and we are excited to see that trend continue.

"Our competition allows us to showcase the very best of the sea and celebrate the wealth of talented photographers across the UK."

The Shipwrecked Mariners' Society provides financial assistance to fishermen, mariners and their dependants who are suffering hardship, whether due to accident, ill health, unemployment or in retirement after a life spent working at sea.

In the last year, the charity received 560 new applications for assistance and distributed £1.4 million in over 2,000 cases of need.

Commodore Williams continued: "The UK relies on merchant shipping for around 95 per cent of its imports and 75 per cent of exports and the maritime sector is a major employer in our country." *To enter the competition, visit www.shipwreckedmarine rs.org.uk or the Society's Facebook or Twitter pages www.facebook.com/ship wreckedmariners and @ShipwreckedSoc.*

Lloyds Bank Foundation reception at Senedd

Jane Hutt AM with members of Vale People First and Karen Turnbull, chief executive of Amelia Trust Farm.

WITH Vale People First and Amelia Trust Farm benefiting from Lloyds Bank Foundation funding support, Vale AM Jane Hutt was delighted to host a reception recently in the Senedd to welcome their investment in Wales.

Ms Hutt said: "It was great to welcome beneficiaries of the Lloyds Bank Foundation to the Senedd from across Wales working in partnership with the third sector and Welsh Government.

"I was especially pleased to welcome charities like Vale People First and Amelia Trust Farm to the event to thank them for their exceptional work in the Vale."

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL • CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Development that may affect a Conservation Area/ Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2017/00548/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Variation to renew existing planning permission - varying Condition 1 of Planning Permission 2012/00075/FUL. To extend time period for commencement of development
Location:/Lleoliad: 9, Paget Place, Penarth
Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2017/00561/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: The proposed installation is a 22.5m monopole mast, supporting 3 no antenna, 2 no dishes, together with associated ground based equipment cabinets and ancillary development thereto
Location:/Lleoliad: Land at Pancross Farm, Llancarfan
Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth Affecting the Llancarfan Conservation Area

Listed Building Consent/ Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2017/00580/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Replacement of advertisement with the erection of 2 no. fascia signs.
Location:/Lleoliad: 28, High Street, Cowbridge
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2017/00598/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Remove loose section of wall following vehicle collision and rebuild as existing.
Location:/Lleoliad: West Aberthaw Farm, West Aberthaw
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2017/00605/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Repairs and decorations to exterior and interior of property for maintenance purposes. There are no proposals to undertake material alterations or demolitions, other than to replace rainwater goods.
Location:/Lleoliad: 33, High Street, Cowbridge
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2017/00607/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Permission for the inclusion of CCTV, external lighting, SAS radio receiver and an audio entry panel within the West Aberthaw Barns development
Location:/Lleoliad: West Aberthaw Barns
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Affecting setting of a Listed Building/ Cais (au) sy'n effeithio ar leoliad Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2017/00564/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed construction of a new highway (called the Northern Access Road) with footways and a cycleway, new junctions, lighting, signs, fencing, flood alleviation works, acoustic barriers and other environmental mitigation measures, landscaping, demolition of garage at Rose Cottage, and all associated engineering and building operations
Location:/Lleoliad: Land East of B4265 between Boverton and Eglwys Brewis, St. Athan

Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting Bethesda Fro Chapel, forecourt, graveyard gates, gate piers and walls, Grade II

Application(s) of General Interest/ Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2017/00329/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Retention of a material change of use of land and a warehouse known as Hangar A from a storage and distribution use (use class B8) to a materials recovery facility and ancillary offices (use class B2) and retention of a weighbridge and weighbridge office
Location:/Lleoliad: Siteserv Recycling, Llandow Trading Estate, Llandow

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2017/00541/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuilding, erection of 30 apartments, new access and alterations to adjacent parking area, replacement tree planting and landscaping and associated works (resubmission application)
Location:/Lleoliad: Northcliffe Lodge, Northcliffe Drive, Penarth

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2017/00564/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed construction of a new highway (called the Northern Access Road) with footways and a cycleway, new junctions, lighting, signs, fencing, flood alleviation works, acoustic barriers and other environmental mitigation measures, landscaping, demolition of garage at Rose Cottage, and all associated engineering and building operations
Location:/Lleoliad: Land East of B4265 between Boverton and Eglwys Brewis, St. Athan

May affect a Public Right of Way/ Gall effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2017/00466/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Erection of toilet block, installation of septic tank and formation of new vehicular access to the site
Location:/Lleoliad: Jubilee Fields Campsite, Peterston Super Ely

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2017/00561/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: The proposed installation is a 22.5m monopole mast, supporting 3 no antenna, 2 no dishes, together with associated ground based equipment cabinets and ancillary development thereto
Location:/Lleoliad: Land at Pancross Farm, Llancarfan

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2017/00564/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed construction of a new highway (called the Northern Access Road) with footways and a cycleway, new junctions, lighting, signs, fencing, flood alleviation works, acoustic barriers and other environmental mitigation measures, landscaping, demolition of garage at Rose Cottage, and all associated engineering and building operations
Location:/Lleoliad: Land East of B4265 between Boverton and Eglwys Brewis, St. Athan

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2017/00567/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Roof extensions to garage to form first floor hobby room & external staircase, garden engineering works and detached rear covered swimming pool with roof lantern & glazed walls.
Location:/Lleoliad: Castle Lodge, Drope Lane,St Georges Super Ely

Departure from Development Plan/ Gwyro o'r Cynllun Datblygu

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2017/00564/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed construction of a new highway (called the Northern Access Road) with footways and a cycleway, new junctions, lighting, signs, fencing, flood alleviation works, acoustic barriers and other environmental mitigation measures, landscaping, demolition of garage at Rose Cottage, and all associated engineering and building operations
Location:/Lleoliad: Land East of B4265 between Boverton and Eglwys Brewis, St. Athan

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Dated / Dyddiedig: 29 June, 2017

V. L. Robinson
Operational Manager,
Regeneration and Planning,
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

All the fun of the (Victorian) fair!

It was Victorian Fair day in Llantwit Major last Saturday, June 24, and a great day was had by all – as these smiling faces show!

PHOTOS by ANDY WICKS Telephone 07855 374478

'HENRY DANTER SHOULD BE GIVEN FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH' says resident

LAST week, The GEM reported that the Vale Council planning committee had voted to give officers the power to take enforcement action which could result in the removal of an arcade extension at Henry Danter's Pleasure Park on Barry Island.

Island resident David Alexander told The GEM that he thought Mr Danter was being treated harshly.

Mr Alexander explained: "I cannot understand what the fuss is about regarding the alterations Mr Danter has made to the amusement arcade.

"Henry Danter is being told to return the amusement arcade portion of the funfair to its former state because, apparently, of an error in his not realising he had to obtain planning permission.

"Mr Danter's contribution to the regeneration of Barry sea front is greatly underestimated – the real truth is that fairgrounds like the one on Barry Island are becoming a thing of the past.

"Theme parks (Oakwood and Folly Farm to name two within an easy drive) where you pay a fixed sum admission and children can go on as many rides as they like all day long, can prove a more affordable option for a family with children, so Mr Danter is, in fact, taking a huge risk.

"Some might consider his alterations to the amusement arcade an 'eyesore' but what he has done is a big improvement on the old dilapidated Log Flume which was a visitor's first sight of Barry Island before he took over. Perhaps his critics would like him to put that back as it was."

Mr Alexander said he had grave misgivings about the state of public toilets adjacent to Nell's Point car park.

"On the other hand, we have the council-owned Nell's Point public toilets that have been allowed, over decades by the same council, to fall into such a state of disrepair that they are bound, in their present state to be dangerous.

"This is a supposedly beautiful Victorian building of special historic interest that has grade-two listed status. There are very strict rules about how one can alter a listed building. Are there no rules about maintaining it and not allowing it to become derelict?

"The way the building has been allowed to deteriorate is nothing less than vandalism by neglect and apathy.

"If people want to talk about 'eyesores' they need look no further – and we won't mention the current fracas of the 'gasification facility' currently being built by Biomass UK at Woodham Road, some 350 yards from people's homes.

"How many sets of planning regulations are there? It seems there are more than one. A set for Mr Danter, a set for what the Vale Council is allowed to get away with not doing and yet another set for Biomass UK who seem to think they can do as they please.

"The council's stance strikes me as being just a tad hypocritical; my view is that Mr Danter deserves to be given the 'Freedom of the Borough'."

Mr Danter may have to remove an arcade extension at the Pleasure Park.

Llantwit volunteers are thanked

LLANTWIT MAJOR Victorian Fair proved a success over the weekend, but organisers were keen to point out that the event was only possible because volunteers were prepared to help and the Vale Council provided support.

Byron Evans of the events committee explained: "For events like this we could do with more helpers, but we want to thank the special people that did offer their help.

"Volunteers helped out on Friday until late, were helping on Saturday from 6am in the morning, and some were still on site at 9pm in the evening.

"There were those who supervised the road closures too.

"The Vale Council was fantastic. The street cleaners were in the town early on Sunday and by 10am it was looking good – you can imagine the amount of rubbish that had been left behind."

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

Llantwit Major Boys' Brigade supports town's Victorian Fair

SECOND Llantwit Major Boys' Brigade supported the Victorian Fair on Saturday with a plant and produce stall, together with a 'Guess the Name of the Dog' (Bruno).

We would like to thank everyone who kindly helped and visited us and are pleased to say we raised over £200 to help our company funds. A special thank you to Andy Wellsbury who donated the plants (and gardening expertise!).

The Anchor and Junior members are looking forward to an 'Afternoon of Fun' at Llantwit Major Leisure Centre next Saturday.

It is the first time we have organised such an event – the boys are particularly looking forward to the ice-cream from Dixies' Vintage Ices to end the afternoon!

As a company, we are also looking forward to our annual presentation service on July 6 at 6pm at Tabernacle Presbyterian Church in Llantwit Major, where the young people will be presented with the badges they have worked so hard for this year. All friends and family are invited to join us.

If anyone would like more information about Boys' Brigade in Llantwit Major, they should contact Debbie on (01446) 796208.

PARK HOMES

at CASTLETON RESIDENTIAL PARK, CASTLETON ROAD, ST ATHAN CF62 4LG

CASTLETON RESIDENTIAL PARK

Offering a unique opportunity for the retirement of your dreams

Empty pitches available for bespoke homes built to your own specifications.

A member of the Castleton team will be there to answer any questions. ALL WELCOME.

Annoucing the arrival of the

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Fully furnished, ready to move into.

Call in for a viewing!

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www.castletonpark.co.uk **Office** 01446 488421 **Billy** 07979 291286 **Matt** 07880 804205

KNIGHTS

ESTATE AGENTS • CHARTERED SURVEYORS

THINK PROPERTY! THINK KNIGHTS. 01446 700222

RESIDENTIAL

Alexander House, Barry - £79,950
- Two bedroom first floor apartment
- Situated in the East end of Barry
- Open plan living room/kitchen
- Communal courtyard
- Within walking distance of shops
- Offered for sale with no chain

Vale Street, Barry £127,500
- Two bedroom mid terrace property
- Situated in the West end of Barry
- Through lounge/dining room
- Enclosed rear garden
- Close to all local amenities
- Offered for sale with no chain

Porthkerry Road, Barry - £325,000
- Eight bedroom semi detached property
- Situated in the West end of Barry
- Seven reception rooms
- Flexible accommodation ideal for conversion
- Generous area to rear with lane access
- Offered for sale with no chain

O'Donnell Road, Barry - £119,950
- Two/three bedroom end link property
- Situated in the East end of Barry
- Kitchen. Playroom, previously a wet room
- Easy access to local amenities
- Set on a corner plot
- Offering a generous garden

Minster Close, Barry - £285,000
- Four double bedroom detached property
- Situated in the East end of Barry
- Dining room. Fitted kitchen/breakfast room
- Enclosed rear garden
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Gaen Street, Barry £139,950
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Port Road West, Barry £199,950
- Three bedroom semi detached property
- Situated in North Barry
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- Driveway leading to garage
- Close to local amenities
- Offered for sale with no chain

Scott Close, St Athan £99,950
- Three bedroom mid link property
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Praise for Porthcawl Primary School

(Left to right): Janine Mainwaring, David Gandy, Andrew Wood.

PORTHCAWL Primary School has been awarded the Wales Award at the Celebrating Every Child Awards1 – a national awards scheme that recognises and celebrates the achievement of children, young people, leaders and teachers.

The awards, run by Achievement for All in partnership with Teaching Times were hosted by Achievement for All ambassador David Gandy and Achievement for All CEO, Professor Sonia Blandford.

Porthcawl Primary School was recognised for its achievement in ensuring every child is included, regardless of background, challenge or need. Their strong leadership has ensured that the school has benefited significantly from the Achievement for All programme, raising the aspirations of learners as well as introducing eight other schools to the programme.

The school has focused on raising aspirations for academic performance, working with parents to develop support strategies in literacy and numeracy.

Headteacher and school champion Andrew Wood said: "We are absolutely thrilled to have been recognised in this way. Achievement for All has provided a strategic framework which allows us to focus on the academic and life skills needed for success. I would personally extend my thanks to parents, staff and to Sue Roberts and Lindsay Harvey from Bridgend County Borough Council for having the vision to develop this in schools."

Professor Sonia Blandford said: "We received a staggering amount of award applications, each and every one showcasing the unsung work that is taking place across England and Wales to improve the life chances of children and young people. Porthcawl Primary School should be very proud of their achievement."

Achievement for All is a national charity that aims to transform lives through improved educational opportunities.

The awards were based on a selection of key themes including:

Building core strength in children and young people; improving progress and reducing exclusions; achieving best value and high impact from Pupil Premium allocations; improving resilience, outcomes and employability for all children and young people and improving staff wellbeing and morale and ensuring every child is included.

For further information about Achievement for All visit afaeducation.org.

Maesteg PACT meetings

SARN/BRYNCOCH PACT on Monday, July 3 at Sarn Life Centre at 7pm.

LLANGEINOR PACT on Wednesday, July 5 at the Richard Price Centre at 5.30pm.

PONTYCYMER/BLAENGARW PACT on Wednesday, July 5 at Pontycymer Police Station at 6.15pm.

LLANGYNWYD PACT on Thursday, July 6 at Llangynwyd Village Hall at 6pm.

ABERKENFIG/PEN Y FAI PACT on Monday, July 17 at Smyrna Chapel at 7pm.

BETTWS PACT on Thursday, July 20 at Bettws Life Centre at 2pm.

Claire Jenkins (right) with Learning Disability Liaison Service colleagues Joanne Edwards and Christopher Griffiths.

Nurse Claire is in running for top learning disability nursing award

A NURSE who is at the forefront of ABMU's improvements in care for patients with learning disabilities has been shortlisted for a top award.

Claire Jenkins, who is based at Princess of Wales Hospital, is a finalist in the learning disability nurse category at this year's prestigious National Learning Disabilities and Autism Awards.

"I am absolutely delighted. It is very satisfying, but this really is recognition of a team effort, especially the hard work of my colleague Joanne Edwards," she said.

The pair are both specialist nurses in ABMU's Learning Disabilities Liaison Service which was launched a year ago and is led by consultant nurse Christopher Griffiths.

The service aims at identifying and supporting vulnerable patients as soon as they are admitted to hospital and promoting better collaboration between the staff who look after them.

Claire's role also sees her offering advice and training to staff, as well as supporting the growing number of ward champions – members of staff in a ward or department with an understanding of learning disabilities.

"The champions are making a huge difference across ABMU, they are the people who there working with patients and their families every day."

She also paid tribute to Jonathan Ridd and Jayne Nicholls, of the Paul Ridd Foundation, who have worked with health board management to develop the service and a learning disability care bundle now used on all wards.

"We wouldn't have been able to do all that we have so far without them," added Claire, who would now like to see the service extended to cover Neath Port Talbot and Singleton hospitals.

The annual awards, which take place on July 14, celebrate excellence in the support for people with learning disabilities and aim to pay tribute to those individuals or organisations who excel in providing quality care.

The Learning Disability Nurse category acknowledges the important role specialist nurses have in promoting the emotional, physical and psychological health of the people they support.

ABMU's Nurse Director for Mental Health and Learning Disability, Hazel Powell, said: "I am incredibly proud of how Claire and the whole team have taken forward our learning disability liaison service.

"Being shortlisted for this prestigious award is recognition of all that hard work – well done!"

Claire will now be attending the awards ceremony in Birmingham's International Convention Centre accompanied by her friend and colleague Joanne.

"It just seems appropriate – we're in this together so I am really pleased she can be with me," added Claire.

WHAT'S ON - IN BRIEF

Councillors' surgery

LLANTWIT First Independents will be holding a surgery at the Heritage Centre, Town Hall, Llantwit Major on Saturday, July 1 from 9.30am until 11.30am. Residents who have any issue to raise are welcome to attend.

Ty Hafan coffee

THERE is a coffee morning and craft sale in the Lesser Hall, Town Hall, Cowbridge on Friday, July 7 between 10am – 12 noon.

Proceeds will be donated to Ty Hafan Children's Hospice

Llantwit Art and Craft

LLANTWIT Major Art and Craft Group will hold its annual exhibition of paintings and crafts on Saturday, July 8 (10am – 4pm) and Sunday, July 9 (10am – 2.30pm) at the Llantonian Hall, Llantwit Major.

All are welcome to come and look around, meet the artists and enjoy some light refreshments. Admission free.

Burglary appeal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The spokesperson continued: "Anyone who witnessed anything suspicious or has any information about the men pictured, is asked to contact South Wales Police via 101, quoting reference 1700234179. Alternatively, Crimestoppers can be contacted free and anonymously on 0800 555 111."

Porthcawl U3A pick up interview tips!

IN our highly competitive society, attending a first formal interview can be a nerve-jangling experience, especially as a teenager.

The more practice young people get in acquiring and then fine-tuning those important self-presentation skills, the more likely it is that success will follow.

Staff at Porthcawl Comprehensive do an excellent job in preparing their sixth form students for interviews to access higher education and apprenticeships, but to inject a touch of realism to the process the school reached out to members of Porthcawl U3A for help.

Some 32 members of Porthcawl U3A were pleased to answer the call to support their community and conduct mock interviews at the school over two days last week.

Each student was allocated a half hour slot to be grilled by two U3A members, many of whom are themselves former teachers and learning professionals.

The whole process was made to be as realistic as possible and was followed by the delivery of feedback directly to the student – helpful hints and practical advice.

Headteacher Andrew Slade was delighted with the outcome: "This was an important opportunity to develop and enhance interview skills for our students, many of whom are about to compete for places at some of the best universities in the country' said Mr Slade.

"The feedback given by members of Porthcawl U3A was really useful in allowing our students to critically reflect and refine their crucial self-presentation skills."

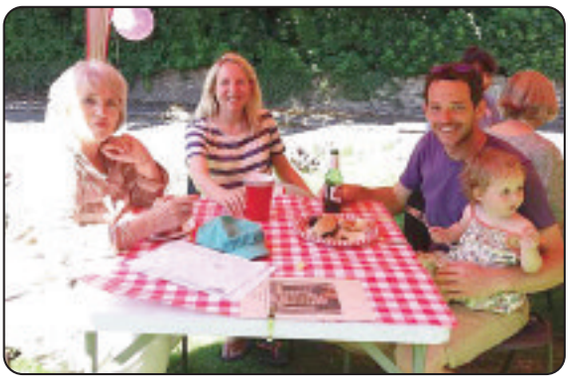
Head of sixth form Claire Crook added: "While more than 65 per cent of our pupils go on to university – 25 per cent of them to Russell Group institutions – here at Porthcawl Comprehensive every student is equally important whatever career path they choose, whether it's university or apprenticeship, and all are assured of receiving support from dedicated staff."

"But they all need to acquire those important interview skills and the school is enormously grateful to members of Porthcawl U3A for their assistance."

Porthcawl U3A is an adult learning cooperative. It has more than 40 locally-hosted educational and recreational activities and 500+ members. Formal qualifications are neither sought, needed nor awarded. Come and discover us!

BRIAN THOMAS

Residents 'fuddle' in the sun at a Great Get Together



A different type of 'fuddle'.

INSPIRED by the memory of the late Jo Cox, June 18, saw 'Great Get Together' take place at Ewenny Community Hall, one of many events that took place across communities nationally.

"The event," said a spokesperson, "brought neighbours and friends from 'across the age spectrum' together and included a 'fuddle' or communal buffet where everyone brought food and drink to share, and music, provided by local flautist Olivia Chester and clarinettist Gemma Chester and singing by Patrick Shepherd.

"The celebrations were summed up by the reflections of one person attending who echoed the feelings of many when she said it was a "wonderful day, perfect weather and… a perfect tribute to Jo Cox's legacy."

Some £236 was raised through a raffle for Community Furniture Aid (CFA) in Pontycymmer.

The spokesperson said: "This organisation helps to furnish accommodation for those in need across Bridgend and the valleys; for an elderly person discharged from a long term hospital stay, adults and children fleeing abusive relationships or former homeless individuals.

The spokesperson continued: "The organisers would like to thank everyone who attended, the numerous businesses that supported the raffle prizes but most of all the family of Jo Cox for inspiring them."

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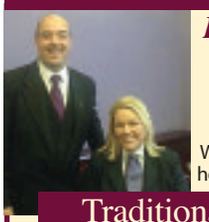

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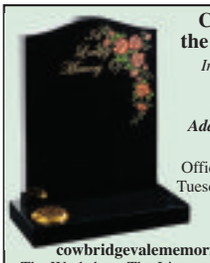

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Family Notices

McSHEEHY
Andrew Mark (Andy)

Suddenly but peacefully aged 45 on 16th June at the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff. Dearly loved husband of Rachel, Much Loved dad of Lauren, Louise & Nathan.

Funeral at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, Barry on Thursday, 6th July at 1pm, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery. Any donations in lieu to The Immunology Endowment Fund or The Better Life Appeal c/o the funeral director.

PILCHER
Michael Gwyn

Sadly passed away at the Princess of Wales Hospital on July 16th. Michael, much loved husband of Lynne, loving father to Sarah and Stephen. Father-in-law to Andrew and Yasmine. Adored grandad to Elizabeth, Ellie-May, Callum and Max. Loved brother of David, Tony and Martin.

Funeral Friday, July 7th, service and cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 11am. Donations to be made in lieu of flowers to the RAF Benevolent Fund, c/o W. A. Brown & Son, Funeral Directors, College Street, Llantwit Major.

WILSON
Rebecca Kester

Sadly passed away on 15th June, Becca. Dearly loved mother of Libby and Abi, loving daughter to Maureen and the late Christopher.

Becca will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Funeral Wednesday, 12th July, service at Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge at 12.30pm, followed by private family burial. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, may be made to the Dogs Trust or the Queen Mary University of London Foundation c/o Mel & Ron Watkins Funeral Services, 2, Hilda House, The Square, Pencoed, Bridgend, CF35 5NP Tel: 01656 860545.

HARTSHORN
Stanley Gordon

(of Parkwood, Woodside, Telford, formerly of Oswestry)

Passed away peacefully at The Princess Royal Hospital on June 5, aged 89 years. Father to Elaine, Anthea, Paula and Lesley and a grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather.

Funeral service 1.15pm on Tuesday, July 4, at Emstrey Crematorium, Shrewsbury. Family flowers only by request, but if desired donations, which will be divided between The R.N.I.B. and Age Concern would be appreciated.

The family are asking people to make a tribute post in memory of Stanley at http://www.myfamily announcements.co.uk/shropshirestar/view/4389626/ hartshorn-stanley.

Enquiries please to J.C. Williams Funeral Service on 01952 580616.

RICHARDSON
Howard

Peacefully at home with his family present, Howard, aged 83 years. Beloved husband of Joan and the late Pat, much loved dad of Clive, Lisa and the late Diane and Keith. Father-in-law to Lyn and Marc, a cherished grampy to Michelle, Nicola, Kayleigh and Mattie, loved stepfather of Wendy and Lesley.

Howard will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematoriumon Friday, 7th July 2017 at 2pm.

No flowers please, donations in lieu, if so desired for Marie Curie c/o the funeral director.

GREEN
Beryl Melville

Peacefully on 26 June at Springbank Nursing Home, Barry. Beryl Melville, aged 94 years. Previously of Cambridge Street, Barry. A loved mother of Roger and the late Robert and Kay. Mother-in-law of Bonita. Cherished grandmother of Richard and Sophie, Lynsey and Becky. Great grandmother of Arthur.

Beryl will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, Gladstone Road, Barry where flowers may be sent. Funeral service and committal at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry, where family and friends please meet on Thursday, 6 July at 11am.

KOOPS
Julian

After a long battle, bravely fought, Julian died at Holme Towers on 19 June 2017.

Cremation at The Vale of Glamorgan Crematorium. Please ring 07889 502939 for details. No flowers. Donations to Marie Curie Hospice or MND Association.

DEBONO
Bronwen

Peacefully, on Tuesday, June 20, our beloved mother, grandmother and great grandmother sadly passed away.

She will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Currently resting at Lyndsay Ellis @ the Vale Funeral Services, 181 Court Road, Barry. A funeral service will be held at St Helen's Church, Barry on Friday, July 7 at 11am, followed by a burial at Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery. We request family flowers only, donations will be greatfully received for the chosen charity, Sands, and Bayview Lodge Nursing Home.

WILLIAMS
Anthony John Williams MBE
Faith Williams

Suddenly at home in Welsh St Donats, beloved parents of Ruth passed away on 18th June.

Funeral at Coychurch Crematorium on Monday, 10th July at 2.45pm. No flowers. Donations in their memory to Friends of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast charity c/o William James & Sons, Fonmon, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3BJ.

BEERLING
Trevor John

Peacefully at home on June 26, aged 73. Beloved husband of Sandra, much loved dad to Darren, Jason and Angela, dear father-in-law of Andrew and Sam, and grandad of Euan, Tomos and Evan.

Trevor will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service in the Chapel of Rest on Monday, 10th July at 1pm, followed by Interment at Barry Cemetery. Family flowers only please, donations in lieu, if so desired, would be gratefully appreciated for Tenovus c/o the funeral director.

GOUGH
Paul John

The family wish to announce the sad passing of Paul on 15th June at Llandough Hospital. He was well known for his time as a mechanical engineer and much loved husband to Gail. A cherished dad of Lee, Bradley and Rebecca, loving son of Eileen and the late Tom. An adored grandad to all his grandchildren and great grandchild.

He will be greatly missed by all his family and many friends.

Paul is in the care of the Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until his requiem mass at St Helen's RC Church, Barry on Monday, 10th July at 11am, where afterwards Paul will be laid to rest at Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery, Barry.

Flowers may be sent to the funeral home, you are also welcome to leave your personal messages and memories via Paul's online tribute page at www.valefuneralservice.co.uk.

BUTLER
James Ronald (Jim)

Peacefully at home on June 25th with his devoted wife Sue at his bedside, Jim sadly passed away. Jim was well known for his time as a steward at Barry Masonic Hall and previously with Sue they were steward and stewardess of the former RAOB club, Barry. A much loved dad of Mandie, Jason, Mags and Gareth. A respected father-in-law and adored gramps and great gramps to all his grandchildren.

He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Jim is in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until a celebration of his life to be held at Barry Memorial Hall, Gladstone Road on Thursday, 6th July at 11.15am, followed by a private committal service at Barry Cemetery. Family flowers only by request, donations, if desired may be made at the service or via Jim's online tribute page at www.valefuneralservice.co.uk where you are also welcome to leave your personal messages. All donations received will support Cancer Research Wales in memory of Jim. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Lyndsay Ellis 01446 407962.

HARDING
Gillian Anne

Peacefully at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend on Wednesday, June 21st, Gill of Llanmaes. Dearly beloved wife of Gordon, much loved mum of Debbie and Tracey, mother-in-law of Alan, adored nan of Matt, Sophie, Ander, James and Jess.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, Gladstone Road, Barry until her funeral service in the chapel on Tuesday, July 4th at 11.45am, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 1.15pm. Flowers may be sent to the funeral home.

RAYMOND
Dilys

Peacefully on Tuesday, June 20th, 2017, Dilys of Westgate, Cowbridge (formerly of Colwinston). Devoted wife of John, much loved mother of Jonathan and Andrew. Dearly loved mother-in-law of Sue and Elizabeth, loving and proud grandmother of Tamsin, Richard, Amelia, Caroline, Michael and Hannah. Loved sister of the late Megan and John and a dear sister-in-law and aunt.

Funeral Thursday, July 6th, 2017. Friends please meet for the service at Cowbridge United Free Church at 11.45am, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 1.15pm. Family flowers only by request but the retiring collection will be donated to Ty Hafan Children's Hospice. Enquiries to Gareth Watts, Owen E. Jones & Co. Ltd. Maesteg. Tel. 01656 733167.

WILLIAMS
Lynda Mary

(Formerly of Moorlands Farm, Llantwit Major)

After a long illness bravely borne, Lynda, loving wife of the late Rhys, much loved partner of Charles, will be sadly missed by all family and friends.

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Friday, July 7 at 1.15pm. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, may be sent to Velindre Fundraising, Velindre Cancer Centre, Velindre Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff, CF14 2TL.

Family and friends please meet at Crematorium.

EVANS
Arthur Howard

Peacefully on June 19 at Milsom House, St Athan, after a short illness. Arthur, aged 90, of Barry (retired head teacher Church in Wales School, Plassey St, Penarth). Beloved husband of the late Marjorie, dearly loved father and grandfather.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday July 3, service 2pm at All Saints Church, Barry, followed by cremation at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry at 3pm.

Flowers may be sent to the Funeral Home or donations to Marie Curie Cancer Care c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

Thank You

Thank you

On 10th June I found myself on the floor in Pontypridd Road, Barry and looked up and saw a lady and two gentlemen helping me up. Unfortunately I was unable to say thank you at the time, as I was in a daze.

God Bless you all for your help and kindness.

Elaine Harris

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Acknowledgements

DUNN
Maureen

Gwyn and the family would like to take this opportunity to thank all who attended Maureen's funeral service, and the celebration of her 73 years. Also to thank everyone for their cards and kind words and all their support over the past weeks, it is really appreciated.

Thank you for all your donations to Heronsbridge School (Hannah's school). The kindness of all the ladies who helped with flowers in the church and with the refreshments after the funeral. The family would also like to thank Reverend Alan Kettle and Penny Snowden for the thoughtful and comforting service. Thank you to Andrew of J.R and M.F. David for the funeral arrangements.

Maureen will be in our hearts forever. Goodnight, God bless Nanna x

HESLOP
Joan (Née Davis)

28 September 1924 - 27 May 2017

Geraldine, Adrienne and families would like to thank everyone who attended mum's funeral service. Also, thanks to everyone for their messages of sympathy and donations to Cancer Research and the British Heart Foundation.

Special thank you to the staff of Ward East 7 of Llandough Hospital, Hallowes and Allied Carers for their wonderful care and support at all times.

Will be loved and remembered forever.

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Jack Sivyer

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Grandad

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The hottest party in town!

ON June 21, Glamorgan Federation of Women's Institutes hosted its bi-annual garden party at the Orangery in Margam Park.

It proved to be one of the hottest days of the year, but the searing heat did not deter more than 500 beautifully-dressed ladies who arrived with picnics which could have graced the lawns of that other famous venue – Buckingham Palace.

The members found shady places under the trees and in the abbey's ruins to set up their tables.

'Red Addiction' provided entertainment later in the afternoon, singing just the right selection of music to set feet tapping and ladies dancing!

Everyone agreed that the garden party had been a wonderful occasion, despite the heat. It was an opportunity to relish good food and liquid refreshment and above all, to enjoy the good company of friends.

JE

READERS' LETTERS

'Everyone has a stake in kidney health'

In Wales, there are 167 people waiting for a kidney transplant, and every single day in the UK one person will die while waiting for their kidney.

Most people don't want to think about their kidneys, but one in eight people will develop chronic kidney disease which can affect their general health and may mean they might need dialysis or a transplant in order to stay alive.

The average time waiting for a kidney on the transplant list is three years and there are almost 30,000 people on dialysis in the UK, a treatment that leaves patients hooked up to machines for hours at a time for several days every week, which has a knock-on impact on their ability to study, work, socialise and ultimately live their lives to the full.

Kidney patients constantly tell us that greater awareness of kidney disease and the impact it can have on their lives would be life-changing for them, which is why we're calling on your readers to become kidney aware by visiting www.kidneycareuk.org.

Francesca Teasdale, Patient Support and Advocacy Officer Wales, Kidney Care UK, Hampshire.

Setting the record straight about Jeremy Corbyn

I am surprised that The GEM printed the letter from Michael Wishart, containing the statement that "Jeremy Corbyn laid flowers on the graves of the terrorists who murdered innocent athletes at the Munich Olympics".

This claim was printed in some right-wing papers prior to the general election, and has been disproved.

Jeremy Corbyn was open about his attendance at a conference in Tunisia in 2014 in order to obtain an understanding of the issues involved in the Palestinian conflict.

He did not lay any flowers or wreaths, but as part of the event, he was present at a commemoration ceremony for the innocent Palestinians massacred in camps in Lebanon in 1982.

Another who is buried at the cemetery where this took place is Atef Bseiso, a former official in the PLO, who is suspected to have been linked with the Munich incident and who was assassinated by Israeli secret agents in Paris in 1991.

If you would like to set the record straight with a true story, why not mention that Jeremy Corbyn was awarded the Gandhi International Peace Award in 2013, two years before he became Labour leader, for "his consistent efforts over a thirty-year Parliamentary career to uphold the Gandhian values of social justice and non-violence"?

Name and address supplied

Welsh Hearts' charity dinner

From left to right: Dr Hasmukh Shah, trustee Welsh Hearts, Vaughan Gething AM, Cabinet Secretary for Health, Wellbeing and Sport; Vimla Patel, secretary Hindu Community Centre, Splott; Sharon Owen, chief executive Welsh Hearts charity.

WELSH Hearts provided a defibrillator and delivered CPR and defibrillator training to volunteers during a charity dinner at Sanatan Dharma Mandal and Hindu Community Centre, Splott, Cardiff on May 15 in the presence of Vale AM Jane Hutt, Leader of House and Chief Whip.

There are 8,000 sudden cardiac arrests outside hospital every year in Wales with only a 5 per cent survival rate. With a defibrillator and a speedy response, the survival rate increases to 50 per cent.

Welsh Hearts is the leading charity in Wales for placing defibrillators in communities and delivering CPR training in Wales. We have placed 690 defibrillator and provided 24,445 volunteers CPR training so far.

Sharon Owen, chief executive and Dr Hasmukh Shah, trustee, SAID: "Donate today to help us place defibrillators in our communities and save lives in Wales."

Contact at savinglives@welshhearts.org or call 02920 647735.

Charity day helps raise money at Wenvoe Castle!

THE charity day is always a special event in the Wenvoe Castle Golf Club calendar and provides a major opportunity to raise funds for the club captain's nominated charity, which this year is the Stroke Association, Cardiff.

The club captain, Dr Dai Dayananda, was delighted with the support he received on the day with over 160 entries virtually filling all the tee times available throughout the morning and afternoon.

The main competition was a team event in a stableford format with the best three score to count on each hole.

In addition there were prizes for any '2' recorded and as a warm up a special putting competition was organised. In addition there was a prize for nearest the pin on the second hole and a huge reward for any hole in one recorded on the 15th hole.

White Dove (Seat) provided the special prize of a new car for any hole in one on the day but unfortunately despite many and some very close attempts the prize was not won.

The club appreciated this very kind gesture which certainly added great interest during the course of the day.

The winning team, with an impressive 127 points, were Mike Chick, Jack Walsh, David Vaughan and Graham Robinson. Second place with 123 points were Rob Gillard, Dennis Davies, Robin White and Dominic Sullivan. Third place with 122 points were Nick Caulfield, Pat Regan, Kevin Knowles and Dean Rowlands.

Leigh Ivory (second), Kevin Knowles (15th) and Dean Rowlands (15th) were successful in the two's competition.

Nearest the pin (second hole) was Dr Derek Jones (2.7 metres), while the putting competition winners were Helen Hughes, Mike James and Les Covell.

The runners-up.

Third place.

The captain, in making the presentation, gave particular thanks to Mark Wilshire, head greenkeeper and his team for presenting the course in an excellent condition.

Special thanks also went to the ladies section for their invaluable contribution in running the competition and the welcome refreshments at half way house throughout the busy day.

The captain also made special mention of the support received from his wife Sue and in particular the funds raised from the 'wine pull'.

The club secretary and club professional, together with bar and catering staff, were also thanked for their efforts throughout the day which resulted in over £3,300 being raised for the club captain's nominated charity.

The final total included a number of kind donations from members and all those involved will know the real winners on the day will be the charity - well done Wenvoe Castle!

BJ

Jack Walsh receives the winners prize from club captain, Dr Dai Dayananda.

Karate success!

COWBRIDGE Karate entered a squad of 20 competitiors in the Karate Wales Welsh Open tournament held at Merthyr Leisure Centre on Sunday, June 25.

The competition drew over 600 entires from Britain and Ireland. Spectators were treated to a fantastic display of technique, courage and ability.

A very respectable number of medals were won - three gold, three silver and four bronze.

Cowbridge Karate were delighted to place sixth in the medal table out of the 28 organisations who took part.

Cowbridge Karate is a long-established volunteer organisation based at Cowbridge Leisure Center.

New member enquiries always welcome. www.cowbridgekarate.com.

RN

Millwood Bowls Club news

WEDNESDAY saw local rivals Cadoxton visit for a Munro Cup fixture played on a fine sunny evening all four rinks had moments of highs and lows.

After a couple of hours of competitive bowls honours were even with both sides winning two rinks each; unfortunately for Millwood the winning rinks were unable to balance the losses on the losing rinks and Cadoxton returned home with 10 points to Millwood's four under their belts

On Saturday Milllwood travelled to Blaenrhondda for a League 4 match against a side in top form, having overcome our local rivals Romilly the previous week in a Carrruthers Cup match.

Nevertheless, Millwood put their best feet forward but as the afternoon and the game developed it became apparent thar despite their best efforts, Brian Crockford and Peter Taylor, along with their rinks, gradually subsided to heavy defeats.

Keith Davies and his rink meanwhile were having a stern tussle with their opponents, holding a narrow lead until the last three ends when their opponents finally ran out 23 shots to 16 winners.

Gary Williams and his rink were also engaged in a nip and tuck battle on their rink but managed to hang on for a well-deserved victory by 21 shots to 18.

The overall result meant the home side won by 94 shots to 52 shot, taking 12 points to two in the process.

BH

WANDERERS' WINNING RUN COMES TO AN END

A thrilling unbeaten last wicket stand of 71 between Gareth Hughes and Danie Selvaraju was not enough to deny Dinas Powys firsts as Barry Wanderers firsts' winning streak came to a halt at Bryn Y Don on Saturday.

Batting first and posting an imposing 275 for 5, Dinas had the game wrapped up with the Wands at 195 for 9 but the last pair brought great entertainment and a whiff of victory but it was not to be as Dinas deservedly won in the end.

Earlier, three Dinas players, Gordon Hannah, Ryan Todd and Curtis Wingren all batted well to pass 50 to set the challenging total.

In reply James Hornby found some form to post 33 until he was superbly caught and bowled by Josh Clogg for 33 while James Hassett and Aled Hughes also found form to both pass 50.

While they were at the crease the win looked possible but after a partnership of 102 they both perished quickly and unfortunately the next few batsmen could not carry it on and it was left to the last pair who almost took the Wands to 266 and almost pulled it off.

Umpires Dave Fiddler and Richard Rodgers said how enjoyable a game it was to umpire and the Wands can take much from the game even if in defeat.

This Saturday the first team travel to Monmouth for a tough fixture but confidence is still high and every point counts.

Barry Wanderers seconds lost at home to Ebbw Vale seconds with the home side fielding a side containing four over-60s and one 59-year-old including Keith Daniels who hasn't played for decades and the 74-year-old Peter Daughton, who retired in 2002 but offered to help out.

Keith top scored with 21 and Peter managed three, although it would have been a few more if he could run between the wickets quicker. Unfortunately, the batsmen who were supposed to get the runs, didn't and the total of 85 was never going to be good enough against a mostly youthful Ebbw team.

Young Alfie Morgan managed 52 not out and is clearly a player to watch while the Wanderers' Luke Grant, who is about the same age as Alfie, took two wickets as his bowling improves weekly.

Great fun was had by all though and the early finish meant the players could witness the end of the first team game.

On Sunday, a carnival atmosphere was in evidence over Hayes Point as the Presidents XI played the Chairman's XI.

Our president Gerry Richards picked a team of mostly past Wanderers while chairman Chris Barnes picked from the current squad.

Lots of old faces turned up to support the day and many a story was told about summer days from years gone by. The Presidents XI batted first and on a weekend where the elder player came to the fore, it was Elwyn Toozer who turned back the clock to finish on a commanding 47 not out in a total of 195.

The food provided at tea was truly sublime and in reply the Chairman's XI made just a 100 but the result was almost irrelevant as fun was had by all.

The highlight for the President was surely seeing the prize wicket of Neil Blundell bowled by grandson Luke Grant, and caught by other grandson Theo Richards.

Former Wanderers captain Jamie Keir was excellent with the bat for the Presidents and superb behind the stumps and then just to show off he too took off his keeping pads and took two fantastic catches including a Jonny Hill rocket on the boundary.

He also captained the team just to top it off. He is a fantastic cricketer and is was wonderful to see him, Stuart Jones and several others back at Hayes Point.

There are far too many people to thank for a fantastic day but the club are thankful to everyone and we did Gerry Richards proud. We now hope that this will be an annual event again and will be a highlight of the calendar.

We also hope that this weekend has given the odd player the urge to play a bit more again and thanks to everyone who played for us.

This week then the first team travel to Monmouth while the seconds will look for a first win against the same club. On Sunday, we travel to Rogerstone for a friendly which is a great place to play although they can sometimes be very strong - either way we are sure much fun will be had.

AF

Gwenfo wins five out of five at netball event

The winning Gwenfo Primary School netball team.

GWENFO Primary School netball team remains unbeaten in playing against several schools in the Vale and Cardiff.

The team was invited to attend two tournaments in Kent with their coaches Pat Plevey and Kym Eltringham.

The team held several fundraising events, including bag packing at local supermarkets and family social evening events, to help pay towards the trip. They also received sponsorship from one of the parents for new kit.

Competing meant adapting their usual mode of play of seven-a-side to five-a-side. The girls completed their first tournament recently, winning all five games: 4-0, 9-1, 6-0, 5-0 and then the final trophy game, 10-1. All the participating schools commented how professional this team was!

The team and coaches have worked very hard for these achievements, and it is a fitting end for the girls in their last year on the Gwenfo team before they leave for secondary school.

JJ

Barry boys prepare for Swedish summer football tournament

Andrew Roberts shaking hands with teacher Mark Hutton, along with members of ICD's workforce and members of the school team.

AS the football season comes to a juddering halt and weekends are spent waiting for it to begin again, the summer can be a difficult time for all of those who love the beautiful game.

However, this year there is no such problem for the players of the under-16 Barry Comprehensive School football team who are busy preparing to compete in the Gothia Youth World Cup in Gothenburg, Sweden, in July.

The tournament is the biggest of its kind in the world, has run for over 40 years and in July 2017 will welcome over 1800 teams from 80 countries.

Barry entered in 2015 and were extremely successful in reaching the latter stages of the competition and they hope to emulate their performance this time around.

This year the team have group fixtures against English, Swedish and Spanish opposition before the knock out stage of the competition.

Hearing of the school's plans, local company ICD Roof Solutions stepped forward to make sure they looked the part during the tournament and have provided the team with full playing kit, hoodies, full tracksuits and travel bags which is all greatly appreciated.

Managing director Andrew Roberts presented the team with their new gear and said: "To be able to help out a local school football team when they are playing in such a prestigious tournament was something we felt we had to do. It is great to be involved with a team with so much potential."

In addition the team have been selected to represent Wales in the Olympic-style opening ceremony which will be watched by a stadium of 50,000 and live television audience in Sweden, which is a great honour for all of the boys.

The team travel to Sweden on July 15 and to keep up to date follow us on Twitter @BCS_GothiaCup.

AC

Barrivale Bridge Club

Mark Roderick and Alan Jones, winners of the EWBA claret jug.

THE Barrivale bridge club results for June 20 are as follows:

The winners of the East Wales Bridge Association claret jug were: Mark Roderick and Alan Jones.

The first three places were as follows: First, Mark Roderick and Alan Jones 64.88 per cent. Second, Dennis Mottram and Mick Green with 60.71 per cent. Third, Irene Thomas and Jenny Vaughan with 52.98 per cent.

The handicap first place winners were Debbie Dawkins and Vivian Liles.

As always, new members are welcome at Barrivale bridge club and a partner can be arranged if required. If you would like to join us call 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or 01446 735592 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

Alternatively, players inexperienced or new may attend on Fridays at 10am at the same address where lessons and play take place in a relaxed atmosphere.

LH

Romilly bowlers back on track

ROMILLY Bowls Club first team entertained Ferndale (Rhondda) to Romilly Park last Saturday in a CML First Division match.

After a poor performance the previous week Romilly were apprehensive as Ferndale were unbeaten in all games so far this season and this was Romilly's third league match having lost their first two games.

The game began with overcast skies and a green that was as heavy as it's been all season. Over the first five ends the overall score went in favour of Romilly by just four shots with the rinks of Fred Phillips and Mel Newman holding leads of eight and four shots respectively while Jeff Wright's rink was drawing and Graham Cogbill's rink, although playing soundly, were up against an inspired Ferndale skip Luke Davies and behind by eight shots.

The next five ends were similar to the previous five with Cogbill's rink of Gary Eastment, Paul Swannick and Mike Doyle the only rink struggling due to the brilliant bowling of Davies and unable to recover their deficit but Romilly were still holding their four shot lead.

Romilly were fighting hard to maintain their advantage and by the 15th end had gone further ahead by 12 shots with the rink of Alan Bryan, Jerry Daly, Clive Collins and skip Wright outplaying their opponents, going 11 ahead by the 15th end.

Newman's rink of Kelvyn Mills, Terry Bloomfield and Roger Jones were bowling well, none more so than Newman himself and their lead moved to nine.

Also Phillips' rink were seven shots ahead with Alan Bannister, Ray Hewitson and third Gwynne Rees all contributing with excellent bowls, Cogbill's rink reducing their deficit to five shots helping Romilly to lead overall 65-43 going into the final quarter.

Although Romilly were holding a brilliant 22 shot advantage they knew Ferndale were capable of producing the game to make a comeback; also the poor performance the previous week was in the back of their minds.

Ferndale picked up seven shots during the 16th through to the 18th ends, reducing the deficit to 15. Over the final three ends Romilly were attempting to keep the ends tight to pull off a great win and get their season back on track.

All the Romilly rinks played the last three ends smartly, and although they dropped six shots Romilly held their nerve, finally winning by nine shots, 76-67, winning on three rinks and losing on one, gaining 12 points to two.

Rink scores (Romilly first): M Newman 20-11 A Thomas; J Wright 24-18 R Evans; F Phillips 17-14 P Jones; G Cogbill 15-24 L Davies. Man of the match was Romilly lead Alan Bryan, who had an excellent game.

Romilly played Whitchurch at home in the first round of the Barry Bowl last Sunday and turned in a great winning performance, resulting in a second round draw away to RTB Ebbw Vale.

FP

CADOXTON BOWLERS' MUNRO CUP VICTORY

CADOXTON continued their Munro Cup programme with a visit to Millwood, and completed another win after gaining a 16 shot success with two wining rinks to each side.

Howard Craven had the best result, against an experienced rink skipped by Peter Taylor. They conceded two singles in the opening ends, but only failed to score on 5 more ends with four singles and a '2' against. Their supremacy included a '5', '4' and two '3's.

Kelvin Chedgzoy opened up a 7-1 led after five ends against Brian Crockford. A short spell went in favour of the hosts reducing the score to 8-5.

However only one further end was lost by the 16th end, which allowed them to concede the final two and maintain the lead.

Derek Jeffries had a close game on his rink up until the 12th end with a score of 8-10. Four losing ends took away any chance of a win despite scoring a '4' on the last.

Ivor Robertson skipped his rink against Keith Davies and a '5' on the 11th end boosted their score to 11-8 advantage. Unfortunately the scores went against in the remaining ends, with Keith playing some good shots to gain the advantage,

Scores: A Prince, I Heppenstall, R Byrne, I Robertson 12-17 K Lewys, P Ross, J Slee, K Davies; D Tuck, J Papoutsou, D Brook, D Jeffries 13-18 C Mallows, C Jones, G Stone, N Parr; E Heppenstall G Solomon, S Clarke K Chedgzoy 19-10 D Lewis, R Wills, M Williams, B Crockford; W Craven, D Hammond, P Ellis, H Craven 25-8 M Conway, L Brooke, A Stockham D Clements. Final score: 69-53.

CADOXTON V RUMNEY – ML5

Cadoxton took a trip to Rumney for the second consecutive week but this time to meet in the ML5.

The side was selected for this occasion with more experienced players. However the team was then weakened, when a number of players dropped out.

The outcome was an 18 shot defeat, with just one successful rink.

This rink was skipped by Don Kuhnell, and kept in touch, but always slightly behind, in the early stages.

It was not until the 13th end when Ivor Robertson, trailed the jack to set up a '5'. This gave them the needed boost to improve their game.

They failed on only two more ends while collecting further wins of , two '3's a '2' and a 4' to complete a welcome success.

Howard Craven was always behind until after the tea break they collected a '4' and a '5' to give some hope but did not continue this success.

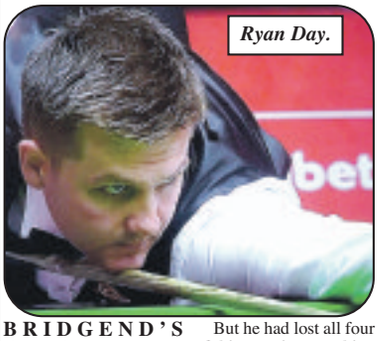
Roy Harding's rink could not get into contention, with seven singles and two '2's, whilst the opposition scored four '3's and three '2's included in their success.

Derek Jeffries' rink were in front after eight ends, but a steady run of defeats took their chance away.

Scores: D Hammond, I Heppenstall, I Robertson, D Kubnell 27-19; W Craven, R Byrne, P Ellis, H Craven 17-23; E Heppenstall, J Papoutsou, K Chedgzoy, D Jeffries 14-22; S Clarke, D Tuck, J Davies, R Harding 11-23. Final score: 69-87.

DK

Breakthrough for Ryan after tournament win



Ryan Day.

BRIDGEND'S Ryan Day has made a long-awaited breakthrough by winning his first ranking snooker tournament in Latvia.

The 37-year-old from Pontycymer has been a professional since 1998 and won over £1 million in prize money.

But he had lost all four of his previous ranking tournament finals, and admitted that winning his first ranking event was a major ambition for him.

That ambition was finally realised when he beat Scotland's Stephen Maguire 5-2 in the final of the Kaspersky Riga Masters last weekend, winning £50,000.

Day looked comfortable when he led 4-0 in the best-of-nine final with the help of breaks of 59 and 77.

But the Scotsman hit back to win the fifth frame with a break of 119 and then added the sixth without Day potting a ball.

But Day was not to be denied, and he won the seventh frame comfortably with the help of a 58 break to tie up the win.

On the way to the final, Day had beaten Barry Hawkins 4-3, Robert Milkins 4-1, Kyren Wilson 4-3, Joe Perry 4-0 and Mark Williams 5-4 in an all-Welsh semi-final.

He made a 100 break against Hawkins and a 119 against Wilson.

A prolific break-builder, Day has made almost 300 competitive centuries in his career, including a maximum 147, but admits that on times he has been let down by a lack of concentration.

He was ranked 18th in the world prior to the Riga tournament, but his title win moves him back within the top 16.

Day said afterwards he was delighted to have finally claimed his first ranking tournament victory after many years of trying.

MICHAEL PROSSER

PORTHCAWL BRIDGE CLUB RESULTS

PORTHCAWL Bridge Club recently held the Martha Davies Trophy event, in which more experienced pairs are randomly drawn with less experienced pairs, then playing as a team.

This year's event was won by Keith and Tony playing with Megan and Mair (*pictured above*). Mair is Keith's mother, and Megan is the club's longest serving member.

Other club results: Saturday, June 10 - First – Dil & Marian Evans; Second – Emer Disley & Debbie Lea. Thursday, June 15, Martha Davies Handicap Teams - First – Keith Davison, Tony Haworth, Mair Davison, Megan Taylor; Second – Pat Haworth, Gary Williams, Dian Jones, Kath Grossey.

Saturday, June 17 - First – John Beard & Tony Haworth; Second – Janet Richards & Connie Dick.

Thursday, June 22 - First – Roger Draper & Rory Gibbons; Second – Peter & Sandie Jenkins.

The club meets twice a week - Saturday and Thursday - at the Awel-y-Mor centre, 6.45pm-9.45pm, visitors welcome at any time.

To contact the club, call our secretary, Trish, on 01656 785794.

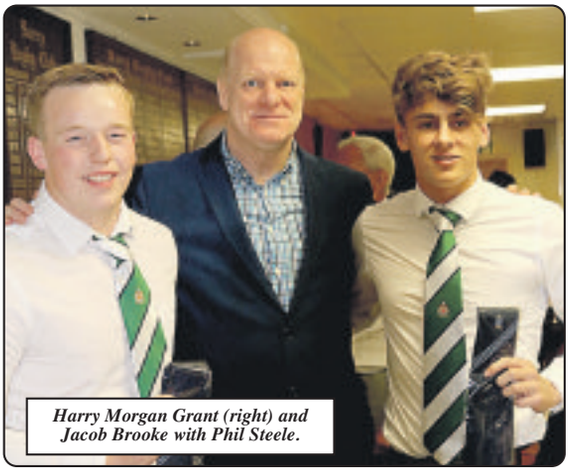
TH

BARRY RFC WELCOMES PHIL STEELE FOR ANNUAL PRESENTATION EVENING

Special award - Dominic Busitill

Spirit award - Louise Shanahan.

Firsts player of the year - Rob Williams.


Harry Morgan Grant (right) and Jacob Brooke with Phil Steele.

Most improved - Ieuan Rendell.

Ladies player of the year - Lucy Cahill.

Seconds most improved player - Daniel Gill.

Clubman of the year - Gareth Hall.

Most improved player Vicki Williams

Ladies clubwoman of the year - Jodie Jordan.

Thirds player of the year Matthew Jones.

Firsts most improved player - John Miles.

Ladies player of the year - Jessica Dix.

Bethan Howell Award - Einan Scott.

Club player of the year - Kyle Barross.

Ben Rose

Youth player's player of the year - Harry Morgan-Grant.

Chairman's Award - Glyn Pirso.

A full house was the order of the day as the annual presentation awards evening was held at the Barry RFC clubhouse recently.

The first award was a presentation to Dominic Busitill to recognise his achievement on receiving his 50th international cap for Malta.

There followed the awarding of club colours to those who have played 50 games for the club and for the first time included players from the ladies section.

Those receiving the colours were Lucy Cahill, Rebecca Helmore and Anna O'Neill, while Dale Evans and John Miles achieved the magic number from the senior section.

Individual awards followed for each section with those recognised being as follows:

Ladies player of year - Lucy Cahill, most improved player - Vicki Williams, ladies players' player - Jessica Dix, clubwoman of year - Jodie Jordan, with the final 'spirit of the Bombettes' award going to Louise Shanahan.

Youth player of year - Ben Rose, most improved player - Ieuan Rendall, players' player - Harry Morgan Grant and manager's player - Chandler Groves.

Second team player of year - Dave Evans, and Daniel Gill was awarded most improved player.

Third team player of year - Matthew Jones, first team player of year - Rob Williams, most improved player - John Miles, club player of year - Kyle Barross.

The Bethan Howell award went to Einan Scott for his overall contribution to the season, with the clubman of the year being won this year by Gareth Hall.

The final award, the Chairman's Trophy, was presented by Tom Haigh to Glyn Pirso, recognising his commitment over the season.

The club wish to thank Ken Chow and Channings Dental Services for their valuable sponsorship of the trophies.

Prior to the awards the assembled gathering had been entertained by Phil Steele from BBC's Scrum V, who kept everyone entertained with tales and stories from the world of Welsh rugby and managed to put down any would -be heckler with a sharp riposte.

The evening went into the night and the day that followed would have seen plenty of sore heads judging by the great atmosphere throughout the evening.

Congratulations to all the winners and well done to all involved in the playing of rugby at the club, for what, for some sections, has been a difficult season.

It seems strange reporting on last season's awards, when this Thursday pre-season training begins at the club from 7pm.

Players old and new from youth to seniors and ladies are most welcome as we head into what I'm sure will be another exciting season.

The lottery numbers this week were 07, 08, 09 and 22, which failed to produce a winner - this week's jackpot will be £5,250.

AJ

Vale Bridge Club results

THE latest results for the Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club for June 26 are as follows:

First, Debbie and Simon Richards, 77.08 per cent; second, Kevin Maddox and Mike Best, 63.75 per cent; third, Steve Burgoyne and John Evans, 60.42 per cent.

LE

Got a sports story? Then get in touch with us - email sport@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Blast From the Past 1998

THE GEM's Brian Lee, who has been reporting on the Welsh horse racing scene for more than half-a-century, takes a look back to the time the Llangeinor Hunt staged their annual Point-to-Point Steeplechases for the first time at Laleston.

UNDER the heading 'GEM Correspondent Tips 33-1 Winner' I reported: 'The Llangeinor Hunt staged their annual point-to-point over a new course at Laleston near Bridgend, on Saturday (May 2) and officials are to be congratulated on getting the course ready at such short notice after losing their usual course at Margam.

'The viewing was more than satisfactory from both fields and, with a few improvements, such as the resiting of the numbers board and a roped area from the last fence to the winning post, the course can be improved upon for next year.

'One rider summed-up the three circuit course as, "a typical Welsh track." However, local rider Tim Vaughan, aged 18, who had never ridden a double before let alone a treble, will always have happy memories of the track as he scored a hat-trick on *Cairneymount* (members), *Abbey Waters* (maiden division one) and *Mountain Slave* (maiden division three).

'Local farmer Bill Howells admitted to winning £2,000 on his mare *Mountain Slave* who was finishing a race for the first time in six starts!

'Another shock winner was *Willchris* who delayed the start of the confined race but, when he was persuaded to line up, made all the running to give 17-year-old Ebbw Vale schoolboy Greg Richards his first winner. *Willchris*'s win was no surprise to your correspondent as, when interviewed by BBC Wales' Owen Money before the race, for a programme going out at the end of the month, I had told him to back it. A delighted Owen told me later that he did and won £66!

'Llandow's Bob Mason had his first win as a trainer when his mare *Bit Of A Citizen*, took the men's open race. Ridden by the Vale's Evan Williams, *Bit Of A Citizen* scored by five lengths from *Sun Of Chance*.

'Pip Jones rode her 19th winner of the season on *High Guardian* in the intermediate. Owned by Ian Brice of St Hilary, *High Guardian* was winning for the fourth time this season.

'In the ladies' open race Keith Pearce's *Ozzie Jones* made it three wins in a row with his daughter Lucy aboard.'

I also reported that *Saffron Moss*, owned and trained by former Cowbridge rider Ross Farr and his wife Shan, was a shock 33-1 winner of the Dunraven Bowl South and West Wales Point-to-Point champion hunter chase at Chepstow on April 21.

Those few punters who backed *Saffron Moss* on the tote were rewarded with odds of 106-1!

Mr Farr won the Welsh point-to-point riders' championship on one occasion and Mrs Farr who as Shan Morgan, rode Wales' most famous point-to-pointer *Mandryka*.

In the 1970s, *Mandryka* won 44 races, including a hunters' chase at Chepstow with Cowbridge's John Llewellyn in the saddle. For the record, *Saffron Moss* was ridden by the Vale's Fiona Wilson who was a Welsh champion point-to-point rider.

You can e-mail your horse racing memories, stories or pictures to brianlee4@virginmedia.com or phone 02920736438.

BRIAN LEE

Day to forget for the Vale CC firsts!

"A bad day at the office," is how first team skipper JP Davies described Vale CC's trip to Monmouth last Saturday.

Electing to bat first on what looked like a good pitch (but which turned out to be trickier to bat on than expected), the Vale top order failed to fire, slipping to 49-3 with the cheap loss of prolific Alex Davidson and JJ Davies.

This became even worse at 113-8 with only JP (23) getting into the 20s.

However, James Snelson shepherded the tail finishing on 55 not out, with support from Alex Upham (15).

Vale ended on 159 all out leaving nine overs unused. Home team bowlers Ben Davies and James Taylor each took three wickets.

Despite a tight opening spell from Matthew Williams (2-18 off 9) including the early wickets of the openers, a good knock from home skipper Adam Roberts (72) saw Monmouth home to 160 and a four wicket victory in the 39th over.

The result sees Vale slip to fourth: they travel to Pontymister this week and will look for a much-improved performance.

At Corntown, meanwhile, an exciting finish saw the seconds win by two runs, with Gethin Merry taking Monmouth's final wicket in the last over.

This was fitting as the 14-year-old Merry was the stand-out player throughout the match.

Asked to bat first, Vale's key run-makers failed to impress. Apart from 31 from prolific Mark Francis, some good bowling and ordinary shot-selection saw the home team slump to 63 for 4 and then 80 for 5.

Batting at number four, Merry watched the chaos calmly from the non-striker's end, and when skipper Carl Brooks joined him, the pair batted sensibly to recover the situation and take the score to 120.

Looking to maximise the final few overs, Brooks departed to ambition for 24, and it was left to a seven-ball 18 not out from Rhys Bradshaw to accompany Merry (37 not out) and achieve a below par - though acceptable in the circumstances - 158 for 8.

Ben Pilot was the visitors' stand out bowler with 3-27.

After tea, Vale's response in the field was excellent. Led by a great first spell from Greg Andrews, who conceded only two runs in his five initial overs and backed up by Bradshaw (1-20), the Vale were buzzing in the field.

Paul Sheppard took two very good catches at slip then debutant Glyndwr Jones' miserly left-arm spin (2-20) kept the visitors in check.

However, good batting from Pilot (40) and Ben Burnett (30) got Monmouth within three runs of their target until the calm Merry (3-20) clean-bowled George Burnett to conclude a great victory.

Vale remain top of the league by a slim margin and will look to improve their batting performance at home against Pontymister and Cross Keys this week.

CB

Fixtures announced for Barry Town United

BARRY Town United will mark their return to the Welsh Premier League with a home opener against Aberystwyth Town on Sunday, August 13 (5.15pm).

The *Sgorio* cameras will be on hand for the fixture, as Barry begin their first WPL campaign since 2003-04 against the very same team they started against that season.

Barry's first away game will then follow six days later, as the Town travel to Prestatyn Town for a rematch from the 2012-13 Welsh Cup semi-finals.

Then, on Friday, August 25, the cameras return to Jenner Park for the visit of champions The New Saints, opponents who are no strangers to Gavin Chesterfield's men, after the clubs' exciting Welsh Cup and MG Cup showdowns of the past two seasons.

In a rare Thursday night fixture at Jenner Park, a repeat of last season's MG Cup semi-final awaits *Sgorio's* Facebook viewers as Carmarthen Town come to Barry on Thursday, September 21.

The Christmas period then brings a double-header to Jenner Park, as Barry welcome Prestatyn on Saturday, December 23 and Cardiff Met on Boxing Day, before the return encounter with the Archers takes place at Cyncoed Stadium, a 1pm kick-off on New Year's Eve.

In other dates for the diary, there will be a first trip to Llandudno since 1994 on Saturday, September 16, a first ever visit to Bangor City's Nantporth stadium a fortnight later and a maiden voyage to Welsh Cup holders Bala Town on Saturday, October 21.

Following their memorable Welsh Cup meeting at The Rock in 2013-14, Barry return to Cefn Druids on Saturday, November 25, while, 20 years on from their 5-5 thriller at Jenner Park, Barry will entertain Newtown again on Saturday, September 9.

Finally, there will be more Sunday afternoon football in store on Sunday, October 29, as the Town welcome visitors and Europa League adventurers Connah's Quay Nomads in a 2.30pm kick-off.

After completing the 22 fixtures in January, the league will split into a top and bottom six with Barry playing the other five in their division again, home and away.

The full set of fixtures for the initial 22-game stage can be found at *http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/barrytownunited*

AC

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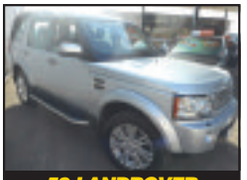

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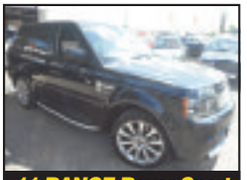

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59 LANDROVER Discovery 3.0 TDV6 HSE Auto 7-Seater In silver with black leather, 59,000 miles, host of extras .....**REDUCED BY £1000 TO £21,995**

63 VOLKSWAGEN Tiguan 2.0 TDi Match Auto 4x4 In silver, 39,000 mile diesel **£14,995**

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63 MERCEDES C220 CDi Executive SE Blue Efficiency Estate In met-grey, 82,000 miles with sat-nav.....**£11,495**

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14 CITROEN DS3 1.6 Style met blue/grey roof, 15,000 miles, 1 owner **£7,995**

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13 SKODA Octavia 1.2 TSi 3-Dr In blue, 54,000 miles, 1 owner **£7,995**

13 MINI 1.6 Diesel Cooper D In black, 35,000 miles, with a/c, alloys etc **£7,995**

62 VOLKSWAGEN Jetta 1.6 Diesel Automatic Blue Motion SE In met-grey, 55,000 miles, 1 owner .....**REDUCED BY £500 TO £7,995**

62 FORD B-Max 1.6 Titanium Automatic In met blue, 27,000 miles **£7,995**

11 NISSAN Qashqai 1.5 DCi Accenta In met-burgundy, 47,000 miles diesel at .....**REDUCED TO £7,995**

10 FORD S-Max 2.0 TDCi Zetec Automatic In black, 68,000 miles, diesel 7-seater .....**REDUCED TO £7,995**

15 SEAT Ibiza 1.4 Sport Coupe 'Toca' In bronze, 7,000 miles **£7,695**

14 VAUXHALL Astra 1.7 CDTi Excite 5-Dr In met-grey, 1 owner, diesel.....**£7,695**

61 SKODA Yeti 2.0 TDi S 4x4 In black, 65,000 miles with side steps.....**£7,695**

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08 TOYOTA Prius T-Spirit Auto Hybrid In met-black, 1 owner, 19,000 miles from new **£7,495**

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15 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Zetec 3-Dr In red, 12,000 miles, under Ford warranty .....**REDUCED TO £6,995**

14 VAUXHALL Adam Glam 1.4 In very berry with cream roof, 25,000 miles, 1 owner, bluetooth, pan roof etc .....**REDUCED BY £700 TO £6,995**

63 CITROEN DS3 1.6 HDi Style-E In encre met with white roof, 52,000 mile diesel hatch, free road tax **£6,995**

13 PEUGEOT 3008 Aless HDi 5-Dr In met red, 29,000 mile .....**REDUCED TO £6,995**

63 RENAULT Megane 1.5 Diesel Coupe 'Knight Edition' 40,000 miles, free road tax **£6,995**

13 CITROEN C3 Picasso 1.6 HDi Exclusive In met-grey, 29,000 miles, 1 owner **£6,995**

63 FORD Fiesta 1.5 TDCi Zetec 3-Dr In black, 56,000 miles. 1 owner, free road tax **£6,995**

60 SAAB 9.3 Linear SE 1.9D Convertable In black, 62,000 miles, full spec **£6,995**

62 TOYOTA Auris 1.6 TR V-Matic In met-black, 24,000 miles.....**£6,795**

13 PEUGEOT 208 1.6 Diesel Active E-HDi 5-Dr In silver, 36,000 miles, free road tax .....**REDUCED TO £6,495**

62 FORD Fiesta 1.4 TDCi Titanium 5-Dr In black, 45,000 miles, diesel at.....**£6,495**

64 PEUGEOT 108 Active 3-Dr In red, 23,000 miles, 1 owner, free road tax .....**REDUCED TO £5,995**

59 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Titanium 3-Dr In hot magenta, 48,000 miles, full leather trim **£5,495**

13 CITROEN C1 1.0 Litre 5-Dr In silver, 1 owner, 12,000 miles **£4,995**

11 CITROEN C3 Picasso 1.6 HDi Exclusive In met-grey, 63,000 miles, diesel.....**REDUCED TO £4,995**

61 SKODA Fabia 1.4 SE 5-Dr In red, 62,000 miles, 1 owner **£4,995**

61 NISSAN Micra 1.2 Visia 5-Dr In met-grey, 17,000 miles, £30 road tax **£4,995**

60 TOYOTA Yaris 1.4 Diesel TRD-4D 5-Dr In red, 36,000 miles, £20 road tax **£4,995**

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60 ALFA-ROMEO Mito 1.2 Diesel Veloce JTDM 3-Dr In met-red, 53,000 miles, nice example **£4,695**

10 CITROEN C3 Airdream 5-Dr 1.6 Diesel In silver, 67,000 miles, free road tax **£4,495**

58 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge In silver, 33,000 miles, with glass roof, a/c etc **£4,495**

61 TOYOTA Aygo 1.0 'Go' 5-Dr In red, 39,000 miles with sat-nav, a/c, £20 road tax **£4,295**

11 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Diesel CDTi Eco-Flex 5-Dr In met-grey, 67,000 miles, £30 riad tax..... **£3,995**

11 SMART Fortwo Passion Diesel Automatic In red/silver, 37,000 miles, sat-nav, a/c etc..... **£3,995**

07 AUDI A3 SE TDi 2.0 In brilliant red, 80,000 miles, climate, cruise etc **£3,995**

53 BMW 530i SE Auto In black with black leather, 88,000 miles **£3,995**

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11 RENAULT Clio 1.5 Diesel Expression 3-Dr In met-blue, 53,000 miles, £20 road tax **£3,695**

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61 RENAULT Clio 1.1 i-Music 3-Dr In red, 58,000 miles, 2 owners, low insurance **£3,495**

09 SEAT Ibiza 1.2S 3-Dr In nayara blue, 55,000 miles, low insurance ..... **REDUCED TO £3,495**

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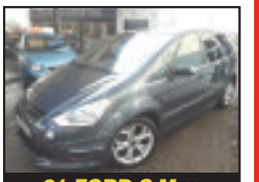

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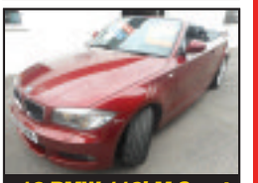

12 BMW 118i M-Sport Automatic Convertable
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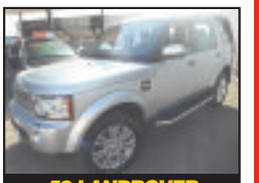

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Tom graduates to become a Cowbridge batting legend

AS the England cricket team have 'Jerusalem' as their hymn/anthem maybe Cowbridge should settle on 'Will Your Anchor hold in the storms of life?' after the first XI's own batting anchor, Tom Merilaht, held fast and scored 130 on Saturday to guide Cowbridge to overhaul the impressive Llandysul home total of 269-5.

Tom's innings, this time a league career best, saw Cowbridge's First XI home by six wickets.

The long drive to Llandysul has its reward in that it is an excellent high-scoring ground but at the toss there was no consensus of what sort of score represented par i.e. the score that would probably give both sides a chance to win.

Llandysul looked far from a side wallowing in the lower reaches of the First Division. Gary Williams made 137 not out while Jonathan Hubsmidt (2-58) was effective and paceman Rian Thomas and off-spinner Nick Wood contained well.

Whichever way you dress it up it's a big ask to chase 270 in 50 overs to win a game. Chasing that sort of number requires some risk from one end and safety at the other, indeed to win requires one of the openers to bat most of innings. But then that's what Tom likes to do

The start was not great as Ben Wright was run out for 11 but after that blow Tom and Jonathan proceeded to bat sensibly and the next wicket came with the score on 152.

Cowbridge had enjoyed a good start and he was followed by Jon who seemed set to get his first hundred for the club only to fall for 77.

Nevertheless the anchor wasn't moving, it was still there. As it turned out after Jonathan was out Cowbridge's batsmen seemed unsure of the best way to accumulate runs.

However it was the solidity of lusty hitting Matt Harper (23), the wicket keeper, and Nick Wood's patience that saw to it that victory was achieved. Yet although it was a great team effort it is a game that will long be remembered as Tom's triumph.

It's not the former six-times skipper's way to be flamboyant, Tom is the sort of cricketer who never gives his wicket away, never gives any succour to the opposition that he might present them with a chance.

While sometimes statistics can create a false impression of value to a side, in Tom's case they tell you almost everything.

To date this opening batsman has batted in league cricket 127 times, scored 5,309 runs at 50.99, including posting 41 50s and now six centuries.

In short, Tom's weight of runs has been the most important aspect of Cowbridge's competitiveness in recent years.

In terms of value to his club, Tom sits with the batting legends of Cowbridge cricket – Thomas Babbington Jones, our first class cricketer, Billy Russell who once scored 201 not out in an afternoon and played more than a 100 times for the-then Minor County of Glamorgan, L E W 'Tip' Williams, John 'JA' Davies and Norman Gauntlett to name but a few.

Remember too that had the regulations been different when Tom was playing for Leeds/Bradford MCCU, he would have half a dozen 'first-class' appearances to add to having played for Glamorgan second XI and Wales Minor Counties.

Cowbridge's unbeaten run is now eight weeks. The last defeat was way back at the first game, against league leaders Bronwydd.

It is probably the fixture that will determine the club that will win The Dan Radcliffe Cup, all support will be welcome.

JRB

Convincing win for Cowbridge Seconds

A convincing 79 run victory over local rivals Llantwit Major Cavaliers last Saturday boosted Cowbridge second XI to third place in the league table and just one point off a promotion spot at the half way stage of the season.

Having lost the toss and been asked to bat first, Cowbridge's openers Jonty Webb and Dave Gascoyne hoped to continue their fine form from the previous week in good batting conditions.

However, it was not to be as the main contributors this week to the home side's total of 189 for 3 from their allocated 40 overs was a sublime 107 runs from the ever reliable Dave Gascoyne and a maiden half century from Alistair Lawson.

Having lost Jonty for 9 with just 13 runs on the board from the first five overs, Gascoyne and Lawson batted with sense beyond their years and blunted the opposition's hostile bowling attack.

With both running between the wickets like two scolded cats and dispatching any loose deliveries to the boundary, their partnership of 171 runs in 30 overs was one to be admired and appreciated by the home supporters who had congregated on the patio in the mid afternoon sunshine.

Despite both being dismissed in the final overs, their partnership enabled Cowbridge to post a more than competitive total of 189 and one that seemed defendable after the tea break.

In reply, Llantwit Major needed to get off to a good start if they were to overhaul the home side's total and the opening pair of Dawson and Hughes made their intentions clear from the outset.

Mike Hordley and the evergreen John Gilbert bowled well creating several opportunities but after 10 overs, the opposition's openers had put on 40 and seemed intent on continuing with their no-fear approach to batting.

However, Hordley's persistence paid off and he was rewarded with two wickets in the final overs of his spell before Ian Evans was introduced into the attack along with 13-year-old Lewis Sevenoaks who replaced Gilbert at The Bear Field end.

With the opposition needing to continue to keep up with the required run rate, their middle order looked to be aggressive however, a truly remarkable bowling performance from the young left arm seamer halted them in their tracks.

Lewis picked up two wickets in his first two overs without conceding a run and with Evans taking two himself, Llantwit Major had collapsed to 61 for 6 from 18 overs.

Llantwit's chance of winning from this position was remote and Cowbridge were now in a position to secure a win and obtain maximum bowling points if they could bowl the opposition out.

Will Harris replaced Evans and bowled well conceding just eight runs from his four overs but it was Navid Younas (3 for 23) who finished off the tail in the 35th over assisted by some excellent catching by Gascoyne and Ian Harris.

After the game, while enjoying a quiet pint in the bar, it is usual to mull over the events of the preceding five hours and discuss the result and individual performances.

Again Dave Gascoyne's name featured given his fine 107 runs and four dismissals behind the stumps but it was young Lewis Sevenoaks who got the plaudits of the team and their supporters having finished with the excellent bowling figures of five overs, two maidens and three wickets for just six runs – well done Lewis!

The second XI travel to Baglan on Saturday hoping for another win that might get them into one of the two promotion spots – fingers crossed!

JS

COWBRIDGE BOWLS CLUB ROUND-UP

THE men were at home to the Penarth team Bell Vue for their midweek Munro Cup game.

Despite Bell Vue being comprehensively beaten, Paul Booth, their captain, was complimentary about Cowbridge's all-weather green and the warm reception his team received.

Rink scores: Gerry Lloyd, Alan Jordon, John Wathes and Bob Penn 33-4; Ron Dobie, Bryan Hole, Rob Lewis and Clive Pritchard 21-10; Steve Dodsworth, Ken Payne, Guy Morton and Norman Wilkinson 34-6; Tony Lewis, John Collin, Colin Wilson and Dennisa Snelling 28-7. Match score: Cowbridge 116, Bell Vue 27.

For the Saturday league game Cowbridge were away to Trelewis.

This was the club's first visit to this particular green and they had difficulty locating it. Cowbidge also had problems putting together a full team for this game with many players not available.

It was a valiant effort by our 16 but they could not avoid defeat on all four rinks. Match score: Cowbridge 61, Trelewis 107.

Ladies results for the week were as follows:

Monday, June 19, Evening League home to Dinas Powis, rink scores: Lynda Wilson, Maggie Penn, Sylvia Hole and Shirley Wilkinson 25-14; Lin Wallace, Diane Lloyd, Sandra Collin and Dorothy Pritchard 18-10. Match score: Cowbridge 43, Dinas Powis 24.

On Tuesday, June 20, the ladies played a Cowbridge Shield Match away at Llantwit.

These matches are always keenly contested and on this occasion Llantwit won overall by just one shot.

Rink scores: Mary Dowdle, Jan Lewis, Shirley Wiilkinson and Joy Woolford 14-11; Lynda Wilson, Caryl Davies, Kay Edwards and Diane Lloyd 12-13; Sandra Collin, Carole Davies, Phyllis Price and Sylvia Hole 10-13. Match score: Cowbridge 36, Llantwit Major 37

On Wednesday, June 21, the ladies played an Evening League game away to St Fagans.

Unfortunately the match was abandoned after the trial ends as Kay Edwards fell on the green.

Kay was taken to the Princess of Wales Hospital and it was found that she had broken her left wrist in two places.

The club would like to thank St Fagans for their kindness to everyone. We all send our love and best wishes to Kay.

On Thursday, June 22, in the league game away to Penarth Windsor, Cowbridge lost on two of the three rinks but there was an outstanding performance by Shirley Wilkinson and her team on the third rink with a 15 shot win.

Rink scores: Caryl Davies, Diane Lloyd, Sylvia Hole and Lynda Wilson 14-28; Maggie Penn, Corrie Bufton, Joy Woolford and Joan Bradley 11-24; Janet Morton, Jan Lewis, Phyllis Price and Shirley Wilkinson 21-6. Match score: Cowbridge 46, Penarth Windor 58.

Finally, the club's internal competitions are well underway and there have been some unexpected results but that is bowls!

MB

Sevens event next month

TONDU RFC will be holding the 'Evz sevens' event at Coleg Cymunedol-Y-Dderwen on August 5.

Gates open at 9.30am and entry is £2 (under-16s go free) with fun attractions for all the family - follow the event on Twitter @EVZ7S.

MIKE SULLY

Close encounter for Llantwit Major

ON Wednesday Llantwit Major men's bowlers had close neighbours Rhoose as visitors in a Munro Cup match.

Llantwit were the winners winning on three rinks, 93-65, depriving Rhoose of their unbeaten run in this cup.

Arthur Hayes' rink had a close tussle in the early stages; on the 11th end Llantwit were trailing by two shots after this Llantwit picked up their game, taking three shots on the next end. Llantwit won the majority of the remaining ends to win by nine shots.

On Charles Hiscock's rink the game started evenly with the scores level on the eighth end. Rhoose then took three shots over the next two ends; Llantwit made a quick reply scoring a six on the 11th end, and won the last three ends to win by nine shots.

Neville Young's rink led from the start being nine shots up at the halfway stage; Llantwit continued to score well to win by 14 shots.

Graham Jones' rink had a close match up to the sixth end when scores were level. Llantwit then won the next three ends to be five ends up and four ahead.

The next four ends were Llantwit's for them to be in front by four. Rhoose took the last three ends to turn it round and win by four shots.

Llantwit had another successful week of bowls with a league win against Thomastown, winning on three rinks in an 85-60 win.

Charles Hiscock's rink won the first end and continued to out-bowl the opposition for the remainder of the match, only allowing them to win eight of the 21 ends in an emphatic win of 14 shots.

Adrian Woods' rink, after losing the first two ends, took the lead on the fourth end; from then on they were in complete control of the game to also win by 14 shots.

Graham Jones' rink won the first three ends to be six up - after this Llantwit found it difficult to find any momentum and Thomastown took five shots over the 10th and 11th ends to be three shots up.

Llantwit came back winning the next four ends to be five shots up; the crucial end for Llantwit was the 14th end when Llantwit's skip converted being four shots down to being three shots up, and Llantwit finally won by four shots.

Steve Booker's rink had an evenly-fought match with only ever one or two shots in it up to the 16th end with all of Llantwit's rink giving their all, only for Thomastown to dominate on the final five ends to win the game.

NY

Llantwit Major lady bowls round-up

ON Tuesday we welcomed Cowbridge Ladies for another round of the Cowbridge Shield.

In glorious sunshine they soon settled and the games were close on all three rinks.

Although 7-10 down on the 12th end, Liz, Dilys, Julie and Helen came back to win 13-10.

It was a different picture on Kay, Naomi, Etta and Margaret M's rink - they were 13-5 up on the 11th end and Cowbridge came back to narrowly lose 13-12.

Edna, Jenny, Carol and Eryl were not so fortunate - although 11-9 up on the 12th end with excellent skipping from Joy, Cowbridge won 11-14.

On Wednesday we travelled to Pencoed, a catch up Cowbridge Shield game, again played in brilliant sunshine.

Kay, Marilyn, Etta and Margaret M were unable to master the green but got a score of 9-17.

Joan, Barbara, Julie and Dilys soon settled and went in the lead on the fifth end and just kept on scoring winning 18-11.

It was a nip and tuck game for Liz, Pat, Carol and Eryl, and although Eryl scored the last point of the game with an excellent bowl, Pencoed won 10-11.

Due to the extreme weather these two matches were 15 ends not the usual 18.

On Thursday we visited Kenfig Hill and Pyle for a league game.

A dull start weatherwise but a warm welcome from the ladies.

The Llantwit ladies found the green difficult and with excellent play from the Kenfig ladies we did not fair well.

Naomi, Mo, Helen and Julie managed a four on one end and on the last end looked like picking up another, but the Pencoed skip had other ideas and secured the last point for Kenfig, 9-24.

Liz, Margaret M, Eryl and Carol and Kay, Pat, Etta and Marian never looked like getting in the lead and lost 6-9 and 9-6 respectively.

Hopefully, we will do better when Kenfig Hill and Pyle visit our excellent green in July; the substantial tea helped lick the wounds.

CW

A team host Cardiff Masonic

LLANTWIT MAJOR A team bowlers hosted their annual friendly against Cardiff Masonic last Friday afternoon.

Due to a shortage of Cardiff Masonic players, the game was reduced to three rinks.

Cen Williams, Richard Bayliss, Les Fowler and Mike Adams took an early lead and although Cardiff Masonic came back, Llantwit proved to be the stronger rink, eventually winning by 18 shots to 9.

Andy Vincent, Ken Williams, John Ball and John O'Brien enjoyed a close tussle against their opponents and went down by 13 shots to 15.

Dave Thomas, Roy French, Pat Twomey and Geoff Timms also had a close match, also missing out by 13 shots to 16.

As is the case with all friendlies, the result was an 'honourable draw'. We enjoyed Cardiff Masonic's company and look forward to their return visit next season.

Special thanks to team captain Paul Brown for manning the bar and serving the pasties!

PB

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British & Irish Lions tour 2017
New Zealand 30 Lions 15

First blood to the All Blacks... BUT THE LIONS CAN TURN IT AROUND IN SECOND TEST

Liam Williams impressed on Saturday and deserves a second shot at lining up against the All Blacks.

There were fireworks before the game at Eden Park - and the ensuing match didn't fail to provide a few of its own! ALL PICTURES BY HUW EVANS AGENCY

The All Blacks deliver their pre-match haka.

Jonathan Davies had a fine game in the centre.

Will Sam Warburton's cameo appearance on Saturday warrant a recall to the starting XV for the second test?

by GARETH JAMIESON

WHEN Warren Gatland named his team to face world champions New Zealand in the British & Irish Lions' first test at Eden Park last Saturday, it came with some surprises which, while hardly cataclysmic, certainly went against the perceived notion of who was likely to line up against the All Blacks in the opening salvo of this series.

The culling of Leigh Halfpenny (consigned to replacement duties, his spot in the XV taken by countryman Liam Williams), George North (consigned to watching from the stands, his spot taken by Elliott Daly) and tour captain Sam Warburton (like Halfpenny taking his place amongst the bench, his role occupied by Peter O'Mahony) were bold strokes from a coach whose reticence to do so in his day job has irked many Wales fans, but who, when wearing the colours of the Lions, isn't afraid of making the big calls he feels are necessary in order to ensure victory – just ask Brian O'Driscoll.

Similarly his decision to place Maro Itoje on the bench and opt for George Kruis and Alun Wyn Jones in the second row berths was a big call, not least due to Itoje's versatility and youthful dynamism, security in the lineout coming first and foremost in Gatland's mind.

Was this a team capable of beating the All Blacks at a ground where they hadn't previously lost since 1994?

On paper, and on form going into this game, arguably yes. But beating the All Blacks takes far more than just turning up and taking on what's in front of you – you need the game environment to work for you not against you; you need to ensure as few mistakes are made as possible, against a team who so rarely make them; you need your players to deliver the game of their lives for the entirety of the game, not just 80 minutes (how often have we seen teams undone right at the end when they believe the hard work has been done?).

In short, you need the perfect mix to grant you victory against the best team in the world.

A 30-15 defeat may indicate that the Lions got it wrong, and certainly there were key things that went against them that didn't help their cause – but equally there were positives, things to encourage that this Saturday's second test may not be the coronation of the New Zealanders and instead be the cliffhanger ending going into the third and decisive test (played, almost for dramatic effect, again at Eden Park) a week Saturday.

Gatland's bold team selection had its moments both good and bad – the lack of concentration at two penalties cost them tries that, with Beauden Barrett's on-the-day faultless kicking, added up to 14 points, while Liam William's dropped ball bounced fortuitously (as they always seem to do for the men in black) into the onrushing hands of Rieke Ioane, whose blistering pace saw him double his tally for the day (Barrett, as expected, adding the two points) to kill the Lions' hopes of victory.

It could have started so differently, had Elliott Daly (after Davies' break) not been taken into touch only two minutes into the game, a stud away from setting the Lions up with a try.

By the time the Lions did get to cross the whitewash, a tremendous break from Williams and good work from Jonathan Davies (twice) and Daly leading to Sean O'Brien scoring, New Zealand had a grip on the game and looked unlikely to let it slip.

It meant the Lions had to play more open and expansive rugby, and with that the errors crept in, gleefully punished by an unrelenting black wave, and at 30-8 the Lions looked dead and buried, replacement Rhys Webb's converted try bringing some balance to the scoreboard if not the game itself.

So what now for the Lions? Dramatic surgery to the team would be both unnecessary and unfair to certain players who gave a solid account of themselves, with Williams (who offers a much more attacking threat than the static Halfpenny) and Daly (whose big boot could yet become useful) impressing in defeat, with the most likely area for change in the forwards.

Not only do you have the options of Itoje and Warburton bringing a different dynamic and (hopefully) offering more problems around the breakdown for the All Blacks, but you also have Courtney Lawes and Iain Henderson, who both impressed in Tuesday's 31-31 draw with the Hurricanes (even if the latter's questionable yellow card arguably cost the Lions the win).

Tactically, against the All Blacks the Lions showed how they can use the skills of the back three with O'Brien's try, the direct and intelligent running cutting up the New Zealand defence, and it will be by playing directly that the Lions stand the best chance of earning the win.

By resorting to Conor Murray's box-kicking game, the Lions are simply increasing the pressure on themselves, the All Blacks' pacey attackers relishing the possession and their ability to turn a small gap into acres of space in a matter of seconds will only lead to more Lions suffering.

What can't be discounted is the sheer guile and ability of the New Zealand players who, on the day, were simply far too good, played at a far greater intensity and were well worth the win.

It's easy to say that the All Blacks are just a team, that they are human and beatable, but when on form as they were on Saturday there's little you can do other than try and force the game, something they'll lap up and feed off as demonstrated on Saturday, when sloppy Lions play was quickly and effectively taken advantage of.

Should the All Blacks play like that on Saturday then they can wrap up the series win a week early, but if the Lions get in gear from the start and dictate the game then it could be all to play for in the third test and final test.

One thing is for certain -it promises to be another epic encounter in Wellington.